

THE ATHENÆUM

Journal of English and Foreign Literature, Science, the Fine Arts, Music and the Drama.

No. 3616.

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1897.

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ANNUAL REGISTER, 1895.—APOLOGY.—The

attention of the Editor has been called to a very serious error (occurring on page 408) respecting the proceedings arising out of the Dean poisoning case at Sydney, New South Wales. It was there stated that Mr. Crick—the junior partner in the firm of solicitors who were conducting Dean's case—had been tried for perjury and sentenced to fourteen years' penal servitude. Mr. Crick, on the contrary, was acquitted, and the Editor takes the first opportunity of expressing his sincere regret that this mis-statement—for which there were no grounds—should have appeared in the 'Annual Register.' The passage has been cancelled, and no more copies of the volume will be issued containing this serious—but wholly unintended—reflection upon Mr. Crick's reputation.

LIONEL ROBINSON, Editor 'Annual Register.'

MISS MATHILDE COHEN (otherwise MATHILDE BLIND) deceased. Pursuant to the Law of Property Amendment Act 1859 NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all Creditors and other persons having any claims or demands against the estate of Mathilde Cohen (otherwise Mathilde Blind) late of The Poplars 30 Avenue-road, Regents Park Middlesex and of 98 Belgrave-road Middlesex deceased (who died on the 26th day of November 1896 and whose will was proved in the Principal Probate Registry of the High Court of Justice on the 28th day of January 1897 by Charles Rowley, Robert Singleton Garneit and Alfred Morris Mord the Executors therein named) are hereby required to send the particulars in writing of their claims or demands to me the undersigned one of the said Executors on or before the 22nd day of March 1897 after which date the said Executors will proceed to distribute the assets of the said deceased among the persons entitled thereto having regard only to the claims and demands of which they shall then have had notice and they will not be liable for the assets of the said deceased, or any part thereof so distributed to any person or persons of whose claims and demands they shall not then have had notice.
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CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CAPT. HINDE'S FALL OF THE CONGO ARABS	203
DR. CALDWELL ON SCHOPENHAUER	204
A BOOK ON KAFIRISTAN	205
THE TREE IN MYTHOLOGY	206
NEW NOVELS (Lady Jean's Son; Blind Bats; L'Amour Dominateur; Sur les Ruines)	207
THE LAW OF COMMONS AND RIGHTS OF WAY	208
RECENT VERSE	209
SCANDINAVIAN NOVELS	210
LOCAL HISTORY	210
CLASSICAL SCHOOL-BOOKS	211
ANNUALS	212
OUR LIBRARY TABLE—LIST OF NEW BOOKS	212-213
THE CORONATION OF THE CONQUEROR; MELANCHTHON; SAMUEL PEPY'S WILL; THOMAS STAPLETON'S COPY OF THE WORKS OF SIR THOMAS MORE; 'THE TESTAMENT OF LOVE'; 'THE BOOKMAKER'S BAR'	214-215
LITERARY GOSSIP	216
SCIENCE—HARPER'S ALPS OF NEW ZEALAND; SOCIETIES; MEETINGS; GOSSIP	217-219
FINE ARTS—FORD MADOX BROWN'S WORKS; MR. G. P. BOYCE; SALES; GOSSIP	220-222
MUSIC—THIS WEEK; GOSSIP; PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK	222-223
DRAMA—THIS WEEK; GOSSIP	223
MISCELLANEA	224

LITERATURE

The Fall of the Congo Arabs. By Sidney Langford Hinde. (Methuen & Co.)

As Mr. Hinde has resumed his earlier profession and is now medical officer in the British East African Protectorate, he must not be held responsible for some faults in this account of his experiences as a warrior in the Congo Free State. Had he been within reach of proof-sheets he would probably have filled up gaps and corrected slips in the narrative, or seen, at any rate, that names were not misspelt. To call Dr. Parke, the friend who induced him to enter King Leopold's service, "Dr. Park" is a harmless error; but such mistakes as the writing of "Fivé" for Fiévez, the name of one of his most distinguished colleagues, are misleading. These, however, are small blemishes in a highly interesting and instructive book. Baron Dhanis's bald official report of his campaigning between 1892 and 1894, hitherto the only authentic source of information on the subject, is here amplified and supplemented by his English companion, and from the two accounts, read together, a clear notion can be obtained of the ugly business described in them.

Neither Baron Dhanis nor Mr. Hinde tells the story from its beginning. It would be interesting to know much more than has yet been published on the question how the Congo State's quarrel with Tippoo Tib and other so-called Arabs with whom it entered into partnership in 1887 arose and developed. The feud had grown desperate before the end of 1889, when Inspector Fiévez achieved what was supposed to be a great victory over Tippoo's followers near Stanley Falls; and only harm came to the Congo State from the numerous little expeditions, pacific or punitive, under MM. Delcommune, Le Marinel, and others, which ensued. Though State officials resided till they were killed off in the so-called Arab strongholds, they were unable, even if they tried, to check the slave-raiding propensities of the masters of the situation, and it is clear that all efforts to control or get profit out of the one-sided alliance merely added to the troubles of the State. It was not so much to open the way to Katanga in the south as to avert a

threatened march on Leopoldville and the overthrow of all which was left of King Leopold's authority in his African dominions that Capt. (now Baron) Dhanis was sent on the expedition of 1892.

Mr. Hinde was one of the Europeans enlisted for this or similar work, but, being detained at Leopoldville, he was only in time to join Capt. Dhanis at Lusambo, on the Sankurru, when the first campaign was nearly over. Tippoo Tib's principal agent in this district, Gongo Lutete, had been repulsed in several encounters, and was preparing to transfer his allegiance from Tippoo to the State. Gongo Lutete, then about thirty years old, 5 ft. 9 in. in height—"a well-built intelligent-looking man, with a brown skin, large brown eyes with very long lashes, a small mouth with thin lips, and a straight, comparatively narrow nose," also with "extremely dignified manners" and "a way of never letting any one forget that he was a chief"—appears to have been a favourable specimen of the cannibal Bantus whom the Belgian invaders denounced as Arabs so long as they were at war with them, and welcomed as patriotic allies as soon as they came to terms with the State:—

"Gongo Lutete was born in Malela, and was by blood a Bakussu. He had himself been a slave, having as a child fallen into the hands of the Arabs. While still a youth, as a reward for his distinguished conduct and pluck on raiding expeditions, he was given his freedom. Starting with one gun, at eighteen years of age, he gradually collected a band of brigands round him, whom he ruled with a rod of iron, and before long became Tippu Tib's chief slave and ivory-hunter. He established himself at N'Gandu on the Lomami, holding part of Malela for Sefu, and by raiding gradually extended his influence to the westward, which brought him into conflict with the State. Capt. Descamps first, and Baron Dhanis afterwards, defeated him. After the defeat by Dhanis, in April, 1892, he came to the conclusion that it was no use fighting any longer against the State; and since the Arabs for some time past had paid him neither for his work nor for the ivory he sent them, he determined if possible to make peace with the State on his own account. This was a wise decision, as there is no doubt that the Arabs were both afraid and jealous of his power, and would probably before long have assassinated him."

Unfortunately for Gongo, his "wise decision" only stayed off assassination for a year or so. Taking service under Capt. Dhanis in September, 1892, and placing at the State's disposal his own horde of five or six thousand fighting men, besides inducing other native chiefs and hordes to join the State army—which comprised but three or four hundred Hausas and other black troops from the West Coast, under perhaps half a dozen European officers—Gongo rendered loyal and efficient help to Capt. Dhanis. Without his help, or its equivalent, the whole expedition would probably have failed. "Gongo Lutete exceeded his compact with us," says Mr. Hinde, "and it is due in great measure to his care and pluck that we were successful during the first half of the campaign." But in September, 1893, on what appears to have been a trumped-up charge, based on a "rumour that Gongo was plotting to assassinate the Commandant," in which, according to Mr. Hinde, "we placed no faith whatever," he was made prisoner by the officer in charge

at Ngandu. On receipt of this news at Nyangwe, Mr. Hinde was hurried off to investigate the matter. But he was too late. Three days before his arrival Gongo had been "tried" and sentenced.

"When, after the court-martial, poor Gongo was told that he would be shot the following morning at eight o'clock, he appointed Lupungu his successor, and when left in his cell hanged himself with a rope plaited from part of his clothing, to avoid the disgrace of a public execution. Unfortunately, he was discovered before life was extinct, and was cut down and resuscitated, and, as soon as he was sufficiently recovered, marched out and shot."

No mention of this treacherous treatment of "our brave and faithful ally" is made in Baron Dhanis's official narrative, nor does it seem that the executioners were so much as reprimanded. Lupungu, however, was allowed to succeed his father in the chieftainship, and Nzigi, Gongo's eldest son, was, in accordance with his wishes, sent to school in Belgium, "to undo the evil effects of his Arab teaching."

In language that is all the more picturesque because it lacks polish Mr. Hinde recounts the difficulties and the successes of Capt. Dhanis's advance—after he had gone from Lusambo to Ngandu and there secured Gongo's co-operation in September, 1892—against the forces collected by Tippoo Tib's son Sefu at Nyangwe, and, after Sefu had been defeated and Nyangwe had been occupied in March, 1893, against Kasongo, which was surprised and easily captured in April:—

"Kasongo was a much finer town than even the grand old slave capital Nyangwe. During the siege of Nyangwe, the taking of which was more or less expected, the inhabitants had time to carry off all valuables, and even furniture, to places of safety. At Kasongo, however, it was different. We rushed into the town so suddenly that everything was left *in situ*. Our whole force found new outfits, and even the common soldiers slept on silk and satin mattresses, in carved beds with silk mosquito curtains. The room I took possession of was eighty feet long and fifteen feet wide, with a door leading into an orange garden, beyond which was a view extending over five miles. It was hard, on waking, to realise that I was in Central Africa, but a glance at the bullet-holes in the doors and shutters, and a big dark red stain on the wall, soon brought back the reality. Here we found many European luxuries, the use of which we had almost forgotten: candles, sugar, matches, silver and glass goblets and decanters were in profusion. We also took about twenty-five tons of ivory; ten or eleven tons of powder; millions of caps; cartridges for every kind of rifle, gun, and revolver perhaps ever made; some shells; and a German flag, taken by the Arabs in German East Africa. The granaries throughout the town were stocked with enormous quantities of rice, coffee, maize, and other food; the gardens were luxurious and well planted; and oranges, both sweet and bitter, guava, pomegranates, pineapples, and bananas abounded at every turn."

The Oriental civilization that the conquerors found in Kasongo contrasts strangely with the barbarism they had passed through, and proves that, if the so-called Arabs did much harm to the natives by their slave-raiding, their rule was not altogether pernicious. It is noteworthy that the natives for the most part, instead of welcoming the conquerors as deliverers, resented their intrusion, and had to be freely shot down and otherwise severely handled before the new

masters of the country were able to establish their authority. There were good reasons for the natives' distrust of the new-comers. Though the "Arabs" were ruthless slave-raiders and may have killed many natives for every one they caught, employed as a carrier of ivory to the eastern markets, and there disposed of, they were generous rulers of those whom they allowed to live and trade with them. Slave-raiding, indeed, seems to have been but one, and not the chief, means to the end they had in view. They were here engaged on more or less successful empire-making to the west and north of Lake Tanganyika, similar to that which earlier adventurers of the same mixed race and Moslem faith had achieved in what are now British and German East Africa, and in the districts around Lake Tchad and up to the Sahara, with whose occupants the English and the Germans, as well as the French, are now in contact. In breaking down—if they have broken down—the "Arab" dominion in Eastern and Southern Congoland, the Belgian intruders have substituted for it no new or better form of civilization. They have, rather, introduced fresh sorts of barbarism. Gongo Lutete, whatever may be said in his favour, and yet more his followers, were mainly induced to join forces with the Belgian intruders by the opportunity thus afforded for preying upon their neighbours and feasting on the abundant supply of human diet provided for them. One of the excuses put forward by Mr. Hinde for the cannibalism of his associates is that, by the prompt eating up of all the dead bodies left on a battle-field, the survivors were saved from pestilence. But this is hardly a satisfactory apology for the loathsome practice, which, on Mr. Hinde's showing, is greatly encouraged by such promiscuous and widespread warfare as he took part in. According to his account, the military and other operations of the Congo State have given a new taste to tribes not previously initiated in the delights of man-eating, and have quickened the appetites of others. In Mr. Hinde's book there are many passages like this, which follow his account of the capture of Nyangwe:—

"For three days we saw nothing of Lutete, and I learned afterwards, when talking over affairs with him, that during this time he had not left his own quarters; the sights in his camp were so appalling that even he did not care to put himself in the way of seeing them unnecessarily. He told us that every one of the cannibals who accompanied him had at least one body to eat. All the meat was cooked and smoke-dried, and formed provisions for the whole of his force and for all the camp followers for many days afterwards. A volunteer drummer who had been with us for some time disappeared, and we imagined had been killed. A day or two afterwards he was discovered dead in a hut by the side of a half-consumed corpse—he had apparently over-eaten himself, and had died in consequence."

Capt. Dhanis thought that he had crushed the power of the "Arabs" by his successes in March and April, 1893, and he spent some months in attempts to bring the natives into subjection; but several skirmishes and more serious engagements had to be fought near Stanley Falls and elsewhere, and when Rimaliza, who had assumed command of the "Arab" forces after the defeat

of Sefu, attempted to recover Kasongo in October, all the available forces of the State were required to make head against him. The fresh campaign lasted till January, 1894, when a chance shot from a new Krupp, which had arrived and was being tested, reached a magazine in the "Arab" camp, and caused an explosion. In the turmoil that resulted vast numbers of the enemy were killed and the rest dispersed. Soon afterwards Capt. Dhanis considered himself justified in reporting that the whole country had been delivered from "Arab" tyranny, some 70,000 foemen having been killed in the process, in addition to the losses on his own side, and that the authority of the State had been finally established. What really happened is not recorded either by him or by Mr. Hinde.

Mr. Hinde's plain-spoken and gruesome narrative concludes with an account of an expedition on which, when the war was over, he was sent to explore the upper waters of the Lualaba. In the opening chapters he tells something about his earlier experiences between Boma and Lusambo, and especially at Leopoldville. Even in that would-be centre of Belgian civilization he found nothing to admire. "The station was badly supplied with provisions, and, as a consequence, both the white and black men were thoroughly out of health." The natives of the district who prowled about Leopoldville and its outskirts made up for lack of other diet by body-snatching in the cemetery, and such other cannibalism as was within their reach. The blacks in the service of the State, most of them brought from the West Coast, and many from the British possessions, were more squeamish or more under restraint; but the control over them appears to have been mainly exercised in compelling them to work, and punishing them for not working, whether they were ill and ill-fed or not.

"Prisons, in the present state of the country, are almost an impossibility, and the substitute used of chaining the men in gangs is not only detrimental to health, but is in every way pernicious and abominable in the extreme, and should certainly not be used for any but dangerous criminals. When half a dozen or a dozen men are chained in a row, and have to work, rest, eat, and sleep without being ever free of the chain for weeks and sometimes months together, their health naturally gives way. Commandant Dhanis was so convinced of the harm done by this treatment, which often incapacitated a man from work for months afterwards, that he practically abolished the chain in his district."

Baron Dhanis has the reputation of being more humane, as well as a better soldier, than some of his brother officers in the Congo Free State, and the general policy of the State is said to have been improved since Mr. Hinde was in its service. But Mr. Hinde's admissions and revelations disclose a condition of affairs in which there was certainly signal room and need for improvement, and his statements are all the more suggestive because he is evidently anxious to speak as well as he can of his former employers and companions.

Schopenhauer's System in its Philosophical Significance. By William Caldwell, M.A., D.Sc. (Blackwood & Sons.)

IN the last few years the growth of Schopenhauer's fame has been rapid and extensive enough to fulfil even the most sanguine of his own prophecies. Never did any writer repeat the "Exegi monumentum" with a greater show of arrogance, and never, at any rate in the sober annals of philosophy, has such a confident prediction been more speedily realized. There is something in the boisterous common sense of certain of Schopenhauer's views which recommends him to the practical English mind, and therefore it is not strange that it was England which provided the earliest stimulus to the growth of his reputation in his own country. As long ago as 1853 John Oxenford's article in the *Westminster Review*, as everybody knows, first drew the attention of English readers to the misanthropic sage of Frankfort, who was railing equally at Hegelian transcendentalism and Anglican bigotry, denouncing Hegel as a charlatan, and suggesting that anti-clerical missionaries should be sent over to England with the works of Strauss in one hand and Kant's 'Critique' in the other. The article had the incidental effect of revealing to the Germans that they had a man of genius among them whom they were unduly neglecting. But although Schopenhauer's name was thus introduced to English readers in his lifetime, it was twenty or thirty years later, when he had passed away and his character and his writings had been the subject of violent discussion on the Continent, before English and American readers began to take more than a languid interest in him. It is only in the last ten years that that interest has become deep and general, thanks to translations, first of his chief treatise, and then of his more popular and brilliant minor writings, supplemented and enforced by a great number of expository and critical articles in reviews and magazines, and by one or two brief biographies. In Germany there have been several attempts at a formal estimate of his whole philosophical achievement; in France M. Th. Ribot published in 1885 an excellent little work on the main aspects of his theory; but no English writer has hitherto devoted himself to an exhaustive criticism of the value of his entire system. It has been reserved for Dr. Caldwell to undertake this work. A writer who has had a Scotch training and is Professor of Philosophy at an American university is in a position to gain a hearing on both sides of the Atlantic, and the present volume, the outcome of lectures delivered at Edinburgh three years ago, is certainly worth the close attention of all who are attracted by Schopenhauer. In its scope and treatment it offers a striking testimony to that philosopher's actual hold on the thought of the generation; and while it supplies an interesting view of the intrinsic value of his doctrines, it also indicates some prevalent misconceptions in regard to them.

Dr. Caldwell states in his preface that his aim has been, not to put together an exposition, or even an exposition and criticism, of Schopenhauer's philosophy, but

rather to connect his teaching with some few broad lines of philosophic and general thought, and, as far as he can, with some few broad principles of human nature. It must be plain, however, that to test Schopenhauer's philosophy by any of the broad principles of human nature is, if the process be properly performed, to subject it at once to the severest and most practical of all criticisms. Dr. Caldwell has also gone a long way in the direction of effective exposition by drawing largely on translations from Schopenhauer's works, more particularly on certain little volumes of selections from the 'Parerga.' Of the criticism here offered it must be said that it is always acute and well informed, and often powerful and even eloquent. But the treatise as a whole would reveal its value far more readily and be far more interesting and readable if it were not so long. It is surely possible to test Schopenhauer's philosophy by the broad principles of human nature in fewer than five hundred large pages, even though they be swelled by a great number of quotations. Nor would the literary effect of the volume be otherwise than increased if Mr. Caldwell had retrenched the somewhat perplexing exuberance of his argument. "The half is more than the whole"; "le mieux est l'ennemi du bien": these familiar proverbs are nowhere more applicable than in the art of exposition and criticism, and above all in exposition and criticism devoted to philosophical subjects. The general defect of Dr. Caldwell's treatment is that he no sooner establishes a clear proposition in regard to some feature of Schopenhauer's thought than he obscures it again by writing round it. This is a defect that to some extent originates in the very acuteness which imparts a value to what he says, but it also argues a certain neglect of the truth that a man may be too thoughtful to be entirely lucid.

In making a protest against the foolish and superficial opinion that the exaggerations of Schopenhauer's philosophy are to be attributed to his character, and that his theories are to be explained by his own disposition, Dr. Caldwell strikes the right note at the outset. No philosophy deserves more serious and intelligent study, for Schopenhauer's system marks a turning-point and begins an era, in a sense not less real than that in which a similar assertion may be made of Kant. In proclaiming that the substance of being was not thought, but will—that will was the infinite and immanent source of all the phenomena of the world—Schopenhauer took a step in advance of all previous philosophers. Dr. Caldwell marks this significance of Schopenhauer's system by saying that it is his service to have reversed the whole process of German philosophy, and to have looked at man from the side of irrational action and passion, to which the Kantian ethics and the Hegelian dialectic had paid little attention. He also points, with entire justice, to the difficulty of reconciling Schopenhauer's view of passion and instinct as the fundamental reality with the glowing language in which he speaks of genius.

Dr. Caldwell makes frequent reference to what he describes succinctly as the

philosopher's "illusionism," a term, however, to which he does not always appear to assign exactly the same meaning. At one moment it represents the tendency to regard knowledge, and even the subject which knows, as merely phenomenal—a tendency which comes in the end to make everything seem to be a phenomenon of everything else; at another it is used as equivalent to a negative attitude towards life and the world; at another moment, again, it is merely the baffling of desire, the unreality of all ideals, that seems to be covered by the word. Schopenhauer made great attempts to escape from this illusionism, and in so far, as Dr. Caldwell observes, he was an inconsistent idealist. Into all the bearings of the question on which Dr. Caldwell here touches it is impossible to enter. It is enough to say that he discusses not only Schopenhauer's, but all idealistic theory with really great ability. Nor is he less interesting in the way in which he indicates the steps by which Schopenhauer's philosophy practically became a metaphysic of the redemption of the individual will from its own misery and that of the world.

One of the best chapters in the book is that on the "Philosophy of Art," which, with especial clearness, brings out the fact that it was more of the insight which art affords than of the artistic sense for beauty that Schopenhauer treated. For the philosopher art was vision into the world of things and the life of men—a view which stands in very close connexion with his general theory of genius. Here, perhaps, more effectively than in any other part of his treatise does Dr. Caldwell indicate the conflict between the will and the idea in Schopenhauer's system.

In the passages in which he declares that Schopenhauer had a good deal of contempt for history and historical analysis, Dr. Caldwell indulges in some interesting reflections on the consequences of this defect on the part of the philosopher. In the first place, it made him, says Dr. Caldwell, fail to realize the historical antecedents of some of the elements in his own system. It would have been well if Dr. Caldwell had indicated the elements to which he alludes, as Schopenhauer's knowledge of the history of philosophy is commonly used for the very purpose of showing how well his theories agree with the teachings of the best of his predecessors. Secondly, the defect is alleged to have prevented him from properly appreciating the fact that thought as well as will is operative in the world, and that men have shown the greatest enthusiasm and self-denial, not merely for material, but also for intellectual and ideal wants. There are many passages scattered through Schopenhauer's writings in which he appreciates this fact to the full, but he has his own explanation and justification of it, neither of which is in any way invalidated by a contempt for that mere transition of events which was all he could perceive in history. That he looked upon history not as a progressive revolution, but only as a constant reshaping of old and permanent elements—like the groupings of the bits of glass in a kaleidoscope—cannot be advanced as a proof that he failed to recognize either the antecedents of some

parts of his own system or the play of ideals in human society. Dr. Caldwell asserts that Schopenhauer was unable to regard history as the manifestation of *rational will*, and that this inability led him into certain difficulties. Schopenhauer, who denied that history in general could be so regarded with any real consistency, would probably have replied that to maintain the theory would lead to difficulties still worse.

Mingled with his discussion of Schopenhauer's views, particularly on the value of life, Dr. Caldwell advances many pleas and arguments which may be used in arrest of pessimism. He is of opinion, and rightly, that to employ this term as an adequate characterization of the philosopher's system is misleading. Schopenhauer himself undoubtedly attached as much importance to the positive aspects of his system as to the negative. Still, his pessimism remains, and it is part of Dr. Caldwell's duty to combat the extreme form which it takes. To approach the world, he says, in the proper spirit is to find it new and full of significance; and if Schopenhauer writes at times as if he held this comfortable doctrine, it is because he is wise in spite of himself. Of how many of us, philosophers and philistines, may not the same be said?

The Kafirs of the Hindu-Kush. By Sir George Scott Robertson, K.C.S.I., British Agent, Gilgit. Illustrated by A. D. McCormick. (Lawrence & Bullen.)

THE country known as Kafiristan is specially interesting—to explorers and geographers because it is little known and difficult of access, and to others because what information we have points to a country wild, inhospitable, and mountainous, inhabited by a race who, in spite of the pressure of fanatical proselytizing Mohammedans greatly exceeding themselves in numbers and better armed, had till recently maintained their independence and secured the respect of their foes. In addition to this, whilst the men were brave, the women were said to be fair, and by tradition the people are of European descent, claiming a common origin with the warriors of Alexander the Great.

This remote country is mentioned in history from time to time. It was invaded by Timur in 1398 on his way to India. The Emperor Baber was on its borders in 1514. In 1604 or 1605 the Jesuit traveller Benedict de Goes went that way towards Cathay, and recorded that when between Peshawar and Jalalabad he heard of a country to the north called "Capperstam," whose people were hostile to Islam, wore black clothes, made and drank wine, and had temples. In 1809 Mount Stuart Elphinstone procured information through a certain Mulla Najib, and recorded that "the Kafirs were celebrated for their beauty and their European complexions. They worshipped idols, drank wine in silver cups or vases, and spoke a language unknown to their neighbours." In recent times some slender additions to our knowledge of the country and people have been made by various persons, amongst whom Major Biddulph, who was political officer at Gilgit, in an interesting book called 'Tribes of the Hindoo Koosh,' has devoted a few pages to the Kafirs. His remarks confirm generally

what Elphinstone and others had recorded, and he mentions their gods, sacrifices, and dancing. But perhaps his most suggestive remark is that the Russian Terentieff "has confidently asserted that they [the Kafirs] are incontestably of Slav origin, and the natural subjects of the Czar"! Col. Tanner, who was for some time on the border of the country, observed a similarity between their speech and that of the people of Laghmán, Kohistan, and Dehgán; he described their dress, noticing specially the boots of markhor skin with a band of hair or fur below the calf. He further mentioned among their furniture *kát*, a cot or bedstead, and *slá*, a stool, a peculiarity of this race with which Europeans can sympathize being that they sit on a stool, instead of squatting on their heels in the manner common to the ordinary Indian. After hearing Col. Tanner's paper read Col. H. Yule remarked that when Kafiristan was explored the Geographical Society might close its doors. Mr. McNair, who was employed in the topographical survey of India, appeared next on the scene. He claimed to have entered the country on the Lutdeh side, though this has been denied by Sir George Robertson with somewhat scant courtesy as having "no other base than his bare assertion." In 1885-6 Col. (now Sir W.) Lockhart and his party entered the upper part of the Bashgul valley, but left after a very short stay; and he was followed some five years later by Dr. Robertson, whose interesting paper, read to the Royal Geographical Society in 1894, has been expanded into the portly but handsome volume under notice.

Its author joined the Indian medical service in 1878, and has seen field service in Afghanistan; he has also done duty with a mountain battery and as a civil surgeon. Whilst thus employed his opportunity occurred. A pioneer was wanted for the purposes of the frontier policy of the time, and for this class of work a doctor possesses special qualifications. To a knowledge of his profession, which is decidedly useful in conciliating semi-savages, he unites more or less scientific attainments with the power of making simple observations and recording information. Robertson was selected and sent to Kafiristan; he served also as surgeon to the Agency at Gilgit, and in 1892 was placed in charge of the Chitral mission, Capt. Frank Younghusband, well known as an explorer, being one of the members. At first all was quiet, the visit of the Hon. G. Curzon being, perhaps, the chief excitement; but early in 1895 troubles arose which involved the well-known defence. For his services during the operations Dr. Robertson was made K.C.S.I.

Having thus briefly sketched his career, we must return to Kafiristan. In 1889 he ascertained that the Kám tribe were on good terms with Chitral, whose chief exercised an acknowledged suzerainty. This influence was used to facilitate a short visit to Kámdesh, whence he returned accompanied by a Kafir. Sir George's idea—an excellent one—was to persuade some of the headmen to accompany him to India and see the wonders of that land, whilst at the same time he and they would learn to understand each other, and information useful for a second and longer stay might

be acquired. But the headmen were suspicious, and deputed a man of no importance, for the sufficient reason that if he were killed or enslaved it would not matter much to the tribe. The party appears to have had a delightful journey through Kashmir to Calcutta, and Sher Malik, the Kafir, might have visited England, for Dr. Robertson came to London to refit. Returning thence, he met Sher Malik at Srinagar, and, apparently about the end of July, 1890, started for Kafiristan. Chitral was reached by the middle of September, after a lamentable accident when crossing the Indus at Bunji: a boat was swamped, several men were drowned, and many things brought from London were lost. The chief of Chitral opposed another visit to Kafiristan, and it seems, when he found Dr. Robertson determined to go, that he used many devices to frustrate the expedition. A good deal of trouble and some danger resulted, but both were surmounted by the judicious and resolute front which the doctor showed, of which several instances will be found in his book. We gather that this second visit lasted a little more than a year, and that he left Kámdesh on October 22nd, 1891.

It is admitted with regret that the work of exploration was incomplete and that the prospect of returning to finish it is now remote, but the result of the experience gained is thus recorded:—

"The first thing is to try and impress their [the Kafirs'] minds with the idea of a strong personality. Geniality and grave kindness of manner are as valuable as anything like buffoonery or 'chaff' is hurtful. The Kafirs would at times shout with laughter at good-tempered ironical remarks of a very simple kind. With an excitable people, such as they are, perfect coolness and command of the temper when they are effervescing or clamouring are indispensable. Ignorance of the language spoken has its advantages as well as its drawbacks. It is even necessary sometimes to assume a greater ignorance than you possess. On more than one occasion at Kámdesh, a furious conclave has been completely discomfited by my quietly bringing a chair, sitting down in a convenient position, watching the proceedings with a sympathetic interest for a few minutes, and then turning to my book.....Truthfulness is very important. The Kafirs used to test my word by coming back a week or two after they had been told stories of things which appeared marvellous to the verge of impossible in their eyes. They would with assumed ingenuousness revert to the former conversations, and would cross-examine me with great skill. I always took care that numbers and other facts never varied in my answers.....A greater mistake cannot be made than to strive unduly to win the affections of the people. The thing itself is practically an impossibility. If you retain their respect and confidence, and possibly their gratitude also, nothing more is necessary."

This is all excellent, and there is much interesting detail concerning the character of the people, their habits, and curious religious ceremonies; we are, however, bound to say that the greater part of the information about the Kafirs is rather a confirmation of what had already been gathered than an addition to our knowledge, and to the geographer the results of the expedition are somewhat disappointing. Many places mentioned in the text are not to be found in the map, which is, perhaps, on too small a scale. The volume is heavy to hold, and has no fewer than

658 pages, royal 8vo.; it would be much improved by judicious arrangement and compression. The common fault of not being precise in dates is committed throughout—thus the reader is constantly told that on the next day, or a few days after, or on the 7th, or on October 14th, certain events happened; but to find out in what year, or even in what month, involves provoking waste of time and unnecessary trouble. Again, whilst there is much comparatively unimportant detail, information on many points of interest is wanting. For example, were the routes followed surveyed, were observations useful for map-making taken, or are the villages merely placed by guess? Are the markhor similar to those of Kashmir, or do they resemble the variety found in the hills west of the Indus? Also a great deal has happened in Kafiristan since 1892 concerning which Sir George Robertson might surely have been able to tell us something of interest without violating a reasonable and praiseworthy reticence in respect to matters which are still the subject of negotiation. The illustrations are generally so clever that some detail concerning them would have been acceptable. Both portraits and landscapes have an air of fidelity not easily accounted for unless they were taken from nature; but as Mr. McCormick was never in Kafiristan he must, presumably, have worked from photographs, and it would be interesting to know whether the results are as faithful as they appear. The absence of an index is a great blemish in a book of this class, which has more than ephemeral interest, and it would be well, if another edition is required, to supply the defect. These remarks, however, are made in no carping spirit; author, artist, and publishers have successfully combined to produce an ornamental book, a notable addition to those concerning the countries in the decreasing zone between the English and Russian empires.

The Sacred Tree. By Mrs. J. H. Philpot. (Macmillan & Co.)

THE author of 'The Sacred Tree' affords the reviewer an unfair advantage by the dangerous candour of her preface. She "lays no claim to scholarship, independent research, or originality of view." Indeed, her work is, more or less, a summary of Robertson Smith, Mannhardt, and Mr. Frazer's 'Golden Bough,' with references to Büttcher and others. While confining herself to the religious aspects of trees and vegetation, Mrs. Philpot warns her readers not to "undervalue the significance of the parallel facts from which" those of tree worship "are severed" in her volume.

As the book lays no claim to novelty, and is but a well-written, well-printed, and well-illustrated summary for the general reader, we may take the opportunity of asking whether the vegetable origins of religion are not being overdone. The *idolon specus* of the mythologist is to work with a single key where a bunch is necessary. We have seen the ark, the serpent, the ancestral ghost, the totem, the sun, the dawn, the stormcloud, the sky, the air, used and abused. Jehovah has been reduced, in origin, to an old gravestone. Now it is the

turn of "the simple fruits of the earth," as Mr. Pumblechook says. Of course Mr. Frazer, like the lamented Mannhardt and Robertson Smith, knows well that "vegetation spirits" are not everything. Mrs. Philpot also knows it, but the general reader, finding "vegetation spirits" as prevalent with her as the sun and the dawn with Prof. Max Müller, or thunder with Schwartz, or lightning with Kuhn, or the *crépuscule* with Ploix, or the ark with Bryant, may think that here is the real key to all mythologies, the vegetable. Mrs. Philpot says, "According to Mr. Farnell, the latest writer on the subject, the chief gods of the Greeks were, in their origin, deities of vegetation." Alas! even the latest writer is not necessarily right. The gods are of unknowable origin. Zeus was not a turnip, nor Ares a corn-stalk. The gods, indeed, have arboreal attributes, "Dionysus in the tree," and so on; but they have also bestial, lunar, solar, aerial, and spiritual attributes. The origins no man knows; the gods are masses of accretions, the germ of the nucleus is a mystery. We can readily discern and disengage this or the other attribute in a god, but we have seen far too many theories of origins go where the roses go. The vegetation theory is overblown—it will follow the ark and the dawn.

Two points may be noted where Mrs. Philpot shows a deficient critical sense. The divining rod, she thinks, following "R. Smith," is "a superstition cognate to the belief in sacred trees," and she goes on to marvel that "people calling themselves educated" employ "dowsers." But they do it because they find it pay! Mrs. Philpot says, "It is not necessary to discuss the credibility of their assertions, or to formulate a theory to account for their success." Surely it is necessary. For if the dowser succeeds, as he does, in a sufficient percentage of cases to make people find it worth while to employ him, then the chances are that his empirical success, due to a traditional method accidentally discovered, and not connected with tree worship, is the origin of his process. Twigs are not the only things employed. The Tartars use a bench (Tylor), and if that be a relic of tree worship, so is table-turning. Indeed, the Thibetans are said to substitute tables for divining rods. Some English dowsers use nothing but their bare hands. Again, if the divining rod is "mentioned in the Vedas," the exact reference is surely worth giving. A Lady Noel is quoted as a successful amateur dowser (*Quarterly Review*, xlv. p. 373). The article might be Sir William Hamilton's if he ever wrote in a Tory journal. Lady Milbanke, Byron's wife's mother, also "dowsed." Dr. Hutton tested Lady Noel with success. The Chinese use peach-tree twigs in a kind of *planchette*. The wood chosen usually has some superstitions attached to it, but any wood will do as a vehicle of automatic action, real or feigned. The casual discovery of this fact, not tree worship, is the origin of the divining rod.

Once more we felt a presentiment that Robin Hood would appear as "originally a representative of the vegetation spirit," like Osiris and every one else. Our prediction is fulfilled. The evidence adduced by Mrs. Philpot is that Robin "is spoken of in

an old book of 1576 as King of the May." What old book? And how can a casual remark of 1576 be proof as to the origin of a hero known, not as King of the May, two hundred years earlier? Prof. Child, in his essay on Robin in his great edition of the ballads, has surely exploded the attempts to mythologize the kindly outlaw of Sherwood Forest.

Mrs. Philpot's work gives the general reader, who "does not go very deep into these subjects," a glance at the conclusions of her masters. If the general reader only remembers the fugitive nature of all theories that are pushed too far, he will be entertained and even instructed. At more Mrs. Philpot does not aim.

NEW NOVELS.

Lady Jean's Son. By Sarah Tytler. (Jarrold & Sons.)

THE defect in Sarah Tytler's eighteenth century romance is the unnecessary mystification of the famous "Douglas Cause" by the employment of fictitious names. Why, when in other details the facts are followed, should Archibald Stewart, the successful claimant, be called "John Drummond," or the Duke of Hamilton figure as "Andrew Douglas of Douglas Place"? This seems an unfortunate departure from the usual practice of "historical novelists." Yet in her main purpose, the presentment of Edinburgh society in the third quarter of last century, it must be admitted that the author has succeeded. We see the old town in its picturesque mixture of roughness and magnificence, and its close juxtaposition of classes, from which its native aristocracy is not yet eliminated. Here lived Mrs. Cantrips, of Kittlebasket, at the very top floor in the Covenant Close; and here we find the formal Mr. Simon Erskine, advocate, with his large family of noisy lads and lasses, on whom his nineteen-year-old daughter, gentle Jeanie, spends her care, subduing her simple inclinations for pleasure, even her hopes of marriage, for their sakes. And it is on the plain-stanes of this city that we find our friend Jeanie aforesaid, walking with her intimate, Lady Margaret Elliot, of the "Teviotdale" family, on their way to the Parliament House, in which both have a personal interest. For Lady Margaret, the beauty of her day, is as good as pledged to young Jock Douglas, the defender in the great succession case, and a certain red-haired masterful Davie Elphinstone, his junior counsel, is looking to success therein to bring him nearer to the hand of gentle Jeanie Erskine. Both girls are well drawn and well contrasted, both genuine and ardent in their love, and both held back, the one by her social instincts, which compel her to tear Jock from her heart if he is declared to be an impostor, the other by the filial duty which her easy-going, but imperious father takes for granted. There are several good scenes in the book: the farewell minuet which Jock and Margaret dance with stifled passion at their hearts; Jock's interview in the kitchen of Jeanie Burnet, the cadie's wife, with the old Frenchwoman who claims to be his mother; and the dismissal at his own instance of Margaret's elderly suitor, so "sprush and wise-like for his age." It is

also to be noted that the dialect is generally idiomatic, and handled with merciful discretion.

Blind Bats. By Margaret B. Cross. (Hurst & Blackett.)

THE reader who is weary of social problems and the relations of the sexes as he mostly finds them in modern fiction may turn with relief to a pleasant, unemotional story such as 'Blind Bats.' The complications and misunderstandings that arise in the development of the romance might have found place in a novel fifty years ago; but they are told in so fresh and sprightly a manner that the reproach of dullness is inadmissible. Barbara Plowden, a little soured by the discovery that her first youth and her ball-room popularity are alike deserting her, seeks compensation in the care of her dead sister's child, and is outraged to find that the child has been left in other hands. Certainly at this period Miss Plowden is, as Kitty's guardian remarks, "hasty and uneven-tempered," and not a person at all suited to rear the young. But when once her quick wits and good heart have overcome a disposition to rudeness, it is impossible to withhold sympathy from so attractive a personality. How the difficulties in her path are finally surmounted the reader may discover for himself, and the fact that the solution is pretty obvious early in the book will not detract from the pleasure of its perusal. Miss Plowden, with her large and intelligent experience of life, forms an amusing contrast to the Girton girl who, from the platform of intellectual superiority and the depths of her enthusiastic stupidity, preaches morality to her "elegant senior." The characters, especially those of the women, stand out with commendable clearness, and there are touches in the story which prove that Miss Cross is a careful observer of human nature.

L'Amour Dominateur. Par Madame Hector Malot. (Paris, Flammarion.)

MADAME MALOT gives us a rare picture of a real woman. Her heroine is not at all a perfect woman. She is at bottom selfish, and accordingly not really good; but she is certainly not bad all round. Above all, she is a true woman, the best side of whose nature has never been called forth: a childless duchess of great wealth, never taught by life to learn to live for others. Irregular in her conduct in a second love at thirty, from a mistaken sense of dignity due to her married love at twenty for her dead husband; irregular in her conduct in a third love at forty, from yielding to the habit of letting herself be mastered by the desire for man's affection, she remains as a character throughout true to life, though not life of the best type. Of course, it will be seen from what has been said that this is not "a book for girls," but it is full of interest for those grown people who, without caring for a plot, seek for the truthful development of real character.

Sur les Ruines. Par Maurice Paléologue. (Paris, Calmann Lévy.)

M. PALÉOLOGUE is a decidedly clever writer whose books are too strong for the ordinary taste, but who will probably increase his

popularity among his special public by his present volume. It relates only the somewhat stale history of the relations of a sensual man and a sensual woman, where the man tires and the woman does not, and where the woman is more absorbed in the one object than the other partner. But the story, though a common one in French novels, is told in a fashion far above the average of these productions.

The Preservation of Open Spaces and of Footpaths, and other Rights of Way: a Practical Treatise on the Law of the Subject. By Sir Robert Hunter. (Eyre & Spottiswoode.)

FROM the widely interesting character of its subject this work calls for a longer notice than ordinary law books require in a lay journal. Its appearance is opportune, as, thanks to the labours of the Commons Preservation Society and other kindred associations and to the numerous cases relating to encroachments upon commons which have within the last thirty years been before the courts of law, the public now feels a deep interest in commons and their preservation. A reference to some recent statutes, such as the Commons Act, 1876, and the Law of Commons Amendment Act, 1893, shows that this interest has been strong enough to have already influenced legislation. Sir Robert Hunter's qualifications for handling the matter may be estimated from the fact that, as he says in the preface, he has for thirty years lent his aid in the direction of the movement for securing the preservation of open spaces,

"in the earlier days in a professional capacity, and more recently as a member of the various societies now existing to protect the public in this relation."

The author's aim, in his own words,

"has been to bring together the provisions of the law which bear especially upon the use of the rural districts for purposes of recreation. Owing to the constant growth of large towns and to the increasing facilities for escape from their smoke and noise, the importance of rural England as a recreation ground for all classes becomes more obvious and is more fully realized every day. So far as the author is aware, no attempt has yet been made to give an account of the principles upon which the enjoyment of the many and varied beauties of England is recognized by law. The present volume is an attempt to supply that deficiency."

The work is divided into two parts: Part I. treats of commons and other open spaces, and Part II. of footpaths and other rights of way. There are also lists of the statutes and of the reported cases referred to in the work, and eight appendices setting forth among other things provisional orders for the management of certain commons and other documents and memoranda germane to the subject of the book. Part I. comprises twenty-one chapters, the most important of which seem to be the second, treating of the enclosure of a manorial common by the lord of the manor, and the thirteenth, which is devoted to the enclosure of a manorial common by the authority of Parliament. In chap. ii. the power of the lord of a manor to appropriate to his own use waste lands of the manor over which his freehold tenants and other persons possess rights of common is considered. Before the Statute of Merton

(20 Henry III., c. 4) the lord of a manor seems to have had no right to enclose any part of the waste land of the manor so as to deprive the commoners of their rights of common over it. But the statute just mentioned gave authority to the lord to enclose or "approve" part of the waste, provided the remainder was sufficient for the use of the freehold tenants of the manor and was conveniently accessible for them. The Statute of Westminster the Second (12 Edward I., c. 46) extended the privilege so bestowed so as to make it available against "neighbours" or other persons entitled to right of common, as well as against the freehold manorial tenants. Much litigation arose out of these enactments—litigation which has extended down to our own time. One of the best known of the modern cases is that of *Smith v. Earl Brownlow*. Possibly some of our readers may remember the rather sensational circumstances of that case. By virtue of the authority which he supposed he possessed under the Statute of Merton and the Statute of Westminster the Second Earl Brownlow, as lord of the manor of Berkhamstead, in the year 1866 enclosed a large part of Berkhamstead Common, by erecting iron fences which shut out the commoners from the part enclosed. Early one morning in March Mr. Augustus Smith, one of the persons entitled to rights of common, sent down from London by special train some two hundred men provided with implements for uprooting and removing the iron fences, and by seven o'clock the same morning the work was completed. Litigation followed. The Earl brought an action against Mr. Smith for trespass, and Mr. Smith instituted a suit in equity against the Earl, asking for an injunction to restrain him from interfering with the commoners' rights. The action, we believe, was abandoned. In 1867 the Earl died, and the suit was revived against his successor in the title and estates, and a perpetual injunction as asked for was granted against the defendant, who had failed to show that so much of the waste as had been left to the commoners was sufficient for their use. It is now, however, provided by the Law of Commons Amendment Act, 1893, that no enclosure by a lord of a manor shall be carried out under the ancient statutes above mentioned without the consent of the Board of Agriculture; and such consent is not to be given unless the Board are satisfied that the enclosure would be for the benefit of the public.

In some manors, where custom authorizes such a step, enclosure of parts of the manorial wastes may be effected by grants from the lord of land to be held as "copyhold." But now, under the Copyhold Act, 1894, such grants must be made with the approval of the Board of Agriculture, and their consent is only to be given on the condition we have mentioned.

The above modes of enclosure were of limited application, and were, of course, quite inappropriate when it was proposed to enclose a whole common. In this case the only mode of proceeding formerly was by private Act of Parliament, and by this means, during last century and the early part of the present century, a vast quantity of waste or common land passed into individual ownership. In the year 1845 a

public general Act was passed, providing machinery for facilitating enclosures. In pursuance of that Act, commissioners, who were styled Enclosure Commissioners, were appointed, and under their auspices during the next five-and-twenty years many enclosures of commons were effected. During the same period, however, a change was silently taking place in the mind of the public with respect to the enclosure of commons, and in the year 1876 it had gone so far as to lead to the passing of the Commons Act, 1876, an Act which, without repealing the General Enclosure Act, provided an alternative method of dealing with commons—that of their retention and regulation as open spaces. The Enclosure Commissioners are now represented by the Board of Agriculture, and the consent of that Board, as well as the approval of Parliament, is necessary before an enclosure of a common can take place, the consent of the Board being granted only in case they shall be of opinion that the enclosure would be for the public benefit.

In Part I. there are also important chapters on the waste and commonable lands of a forest; on the powers of local authorities to prevent enclosures by the lord of the manor; and on village greens.

Part II. of Sir Robert Hunter's book treats of the nature of footpaths; of the obstruction of footpaths and the remedies for such obstruction; of the stoppage or diversion and of the repair of footpaths; of highways and roadside waste; of foreshore and cliffs; and of rivers and lakes.

Whilst this work will be a valuable addition to the library of the practising lawyer, it should prove of much use to members of county councils, district councils, &c.; and by intelligent laymen in general many of its chapters will be found of much interest.

On p. 9, in the quotation of the third section of the Law of Commons Amendment Act, 1893, we notice a small error, "assented" for *accorded*, and on p. 15, in the quotation of the same section, another small error, "and" for *or*.

RECENT VERSE.

THE keen interest attaching to *Songs of Travel* (Chatto & Windus), the latest volume of Mr. R. L. Stevenson's verse, is less literary than biographical, more of the heart than of the intellect; and yet for that, too, it is full of a fine and rare charm. Though it teems with thought bearing in it the germs of a true philosophy, it is, above all things, a record of the heart and soul of one whom we love and have lost—a fit pendant to the cherished Vailima letters. In these poems the idea reigns supreme; form is matter of accident mainly—anyhow, a thing of small account. One turns the pages with the lingering tenderness of one who reads, in the autumn of life, old letters written in life's maytime. In spite of—or perhaps because of—the carelessness of form, the inmost thoughts of a great heart here lie bare before us. The man who, perhaps, more than any writer of our time has won not only critical admiration, but personal love, from thousands who never saw his face or held his hand, here sets forth for us the faith that was in him:—

IF THIS WERE FAITH.

God, if this were enough,
That I see things bare to the buff,
And up to the buttocks in mire;
That I ask nor hope nor hire,
Nur in the husk,
Nor dawn beyond the dusk,

Nor life beyond death :
God, if this were faith ?

Having felt thy wind in my face
Spit sorrow and disgrace,
Having seen thine evil doom
In Golgotha and Kharium,
And the brutes, the work of thine hands,
Fill with injustice lands
And stain with blood the sea :

If still in my veins the glee
Of the black night and the sun
And the lost battle run :

If, an adept,
The iniquitous lists I still accept
With joy, and joy to endure and be withstood,
And still to battle and perish for a dream of good :
God, if that were enough ?

If to feel, in the ink of the slough,
And the sink of the mire,
Veins of glory and fire
Run through and transpire and transpire,
And a secret purpose of glory in every part,
And the answering glory of battle fill my heart ;
To thrill with the joy of girded men,
To go on for ever and fall and go on again,
And be mauled to the earth and arise,
And contend for the shade of a word and a thing not
seen with the eyes :

With the half of a broken hope for a pillow at night
That somehow the right is the right
And the smooth shall bloom from the rough :
Lord, if that were enough ?

Here is no careful sandpapering, no elaboration
of epithet overlaying the utterance of the soul,
no smooth perfection such as Tennyson wrought
in his

— far-off divine event
To which the whole creation moves.

It is the cry of a naked human soul, and to our
soul it pierces straight. There are many noble
thoughts to linger on in these pages, and much
sadness of a kind that is noble too. Perhaps
the finest poem that Stevenson ever wrote is
this, which all who love Stevenson treasure
as his last poetic utterance :—

Blows the wind today, and the sun and rain are flying,
Blows the wind on the moors today and now,
Where about the graves of the martyrs the whaups are
crying.

My heart remembers how !

Gray recumbent tombs of the dead in desert places,
Standing stones on the vacant wine-red moor,
Hills of sheep, and the homes of the silent vanished races,
And winds, austere and pure.

Be it granted me to behold you again in dying,
Hills of home ! and to hear again the call ;
Hear about the graves of the martyrs the peewees crying,
And hear no more at all !

This again is no wrought work of "jewels five
words long," but a human document "drenched
in flesh and blood." With the brain of a genius
Stevenson had the heart of a little child ; like
a child he showed his heart to the world, and
the world, reverencing his genius, yet loves him
best for the heart that was not afraid to trust
its inmost secrets to his brother men.

At the first reading it seems as though
'Poems of Love and Death' would have been an
apt title than *Poems of Love and Life* for Mrs.
G. Colmore's little book (Gay & Bird), for the
poems are as sad as they are sweet. But when
one has read it again (and to a second reading
it tempts irresistibly) one sees that those who
mourn in Mrs. Colmore's verse sorrow not as
those who have no hope, and that a passionate
belief in immortality underlies her saddest
poems. These seem, if we may say so without
impertinence, to be mainly personal, and are
written with a delicate charm and a lucid
candour that go straight to the heart. Happy
phrases are not infrequent ; the general level of
the verse is high, and here and there it rises to
real poetic strength. 'On the Pavement' is a
powerful poem on a miserable subject. The
dirge entitled 'Three Weeks' has a poignant
pathos all its own. The dedication of the book
helps to explain the sadness of its tone, but it
is no ignoble sadness, and no one can read this
little volume without feeling that he has been
permitted to draw very near to a soul full of
high ideals and beautiful faith—probably the
author herself would be the last to guess how
near.

In his *Ballads of Brave Deeds* (Dent & Co.)
the Rev. H. D. Rawnsley has produced a book
which it is difficult to appraise justly ; for the
heroic deeds of which he writes are in them-
selves so moving that it is impossible not to

be moved by the sympathetic record of them
in verse. The real test, no doubt, is to com-
pare Mr. Rawnsley's treatment with the bare
newspaper narratives which he quotes at the
end of the book. He does not always gain by
the comparison ; but, on the other hand, there
is scarcely an instance in which he has spoilt
the savour of a fine deed in his telling. Not
to have done that is to have done much ; for
the prosaic accidents through which heroism
becomes heroic are easily cheapened, easily
made ridiculous, by an undue emphasis here,
an undue wordiness there. Mr. Rawnsley's
previous verse had not prepared us for the
amount of skill which he has shown in such
narratives as "Well done, 'Calliope' !" or
'In a Battery.' He has certainly written not
merely with enthusiasm, but with taste ; there
are moments when his admiration of some grace
or goodness of homely men, some half-ignorant
heroism, gives him a touch of real fineness ;
and he is never guilty of the unpardonable
error of writing coldly about matters which
must appeal to the emotions or be without
possible appeal.

Mr. A. E. Legge's *Wind on the Harp-
strings* (Humphreys) has a pretty title, and the
book has, moreover, a nice green cover with
gold letters on it, and a title-page with black
print quite large and legible, and after it a
prefatory note that he who runs may read.
Then follow the poems, which may be those of
a second Dante—again, they may not ; for Mr.
Legge and his publisher have taken care that
this point shall not be settled by any reader of
normal vision. The poems are printed in type
which is an insult to the eyesight even of a
spectacled generation. We protest against this
fine print, recalling as it does the Lord's
Prayer written within the bounds of a sixpence ;
and we protest in the most vigorous and prac-
tical manner by declining to try our eyes over a
problem which, after all, may not be worth the
solving.

Miss Laura G. Ackroyd in *Homer's Wine,
and other Poems* (Roxburghe Press), is un-
assuming, judges herself (as she shows by her
final verses) quite justly, and is able to do really
pretty work—too facile, indeed, but not without
thought, observation, and a certain command of
language. Her verses for and about children
are charming ; and she is always at her best
when she is not trying to be passionate, or
romantic, or elaborate. At times she finds a
really original image, as in the last lines of 'A
Twilight Etching' :—

Across the gleaming Road three anchored ships
Sway to the tune of sucking waves, that o'er
Their keels with endless lappings murmur deep
Low secrets, kissing oft with baby's lips.

That is something observed ; and ladies who
write verse do not often observe anything with
so attentive an ingenuity.

Sir Henry Parkes, too, like Miss Ackroyd, is
unassuming. His *Sonnets* (Kegan Paul & Co.)
are simple, serious, thoughtful, not always in
the most poetic way, but without affectation,
extravagance, or the prosaic folly of the epi-
gram. They are the writing of a man who is
not a poet, but who does not profess to be what
he is not. Occasionally, as in the lyric written
'After Sickness,' there is a personal touch
which gives almost more than a merely negative
merit to this correct and measured verse :—

I almost bless the loss of strength
That curtains out the noisy world !

There we seem to find a sincerity to a precise
mood, without which, at all events, we are not
even on the way towards poetry.

How insoluble a problem is sincerity ! The
next book on our list is a work which, if sin-
cerity could produce poetry, would certainly be
poetry. Yet we read coldly what we are con-
scious has been written with deep emotion.
Grief is monotonous, and plaintive reminis-
cence, without a vividness which only art can
give to memory, becomes doubly monotonous.

So Mr. E. J. Mills's book, *My Only Child :
Poems in her Memory* (Constable & Co.), in
which a father laments the loss of his daughter,
becomes wearisome, sometimes unreal, though
the writer is by no means without a certain
touch of poetic fancy. The sestet of this sonnet
really comes near to being good :—

GRASS OF PARNASSUS.

I clomb the hill and, in a nook of dew
(What time an early autumn touched the bay),
Found thee, a dweller dainty-sweet midway,
Where, on a sunny morn, the west wind blew.
Grass of Parnassus ! Surely then I knew
Flowers are the site of tender Love's delay ;
Hence by thy pure white petals did I stay,
And read thy crystal lines at closer view.
O, but thou wert so white ! I could avert
That my lost child went thither soft and soon,
Alighting on the slope with holy feet ;
So that there rose a little bud like her.
Left as a welcome to my quest at noon,—
That she and I, that love and Love, might meet.

All true originality is really nothing but sin-
cerity acting upon a poetic nature ; but sincerity
acting upon a nature not really poetic can but
produce verse which will seem to be insincere in
motive as it is certain to be imitative in manner.

Ver Lyre (Lawrence & Bullen) is a selection
from three volumes published during the last
fifteen years, and it is got up in an elegant
manner. At times Mr. C. Newton-Robinson
can write rather prettily, as in this little piece
called 'Love Challenged' :—

Look thou on me not lightly, Love !
Provoke but once, with herald eyes ;
Then take all vantages of war,
—Trick, stratagem, surprise !
For so do I condemn and hate
The loveless ranks that I am in ;
As lief would I desert as fight,
And liefer lose than win !
I court an ambush, crave a hurt,
And beg no other, meeter doom,
Than donning fetters, Love ! of thine !
Quick ! find me prison-room !

But he is never more than rather pretty ; he is
vague and tentative ; writes smoothly of Dulci-
bels and cathedrals and the battle of Creçy, and
at times ventures, unwisely, upon the experi-
ment of unrhymed lyrical verse. One of the
sections of his book is called "Travel Notes."
Did it occur to the writer to ask himself how
these verses about Burgos, Toulouse, and the
other delightful places which he has visited,
would look if they were written down in prose ?
Has he not rather assumed that that may be
sung which is not worth saying ? And he really
must not, even in a translation, rhyme "Lido"
with "flow," and invent an accent for it in order
to justify his mispronunciation.

"Sabrina" dedicates *The Lilies, and other
Poems* (Digby, Long & Co.), to her aunt, and
begs that relative :—

Do not deem them the fruits of misspent hours
Or them erase as things which should not be.

She explains, with a conscientiousness which
does her credit :—

From sunny Riviera's shores,
Where lies a wealth of Flora's stores,
The lilies came to me,
I do not mean direct to me,
The lilies came from o'er the sea,
From Nice, Mentone, Cannes,
They came with many other flowers
Sent from the land of France to ours,
To bloom for a brief span.

"Sabrina" is right : her lilies did not come
direct to her, and they are likely to bloom for
a very brief span indeed.

"This low, ignoble strain," Mr. F. E. Ellis,
the author of *Sir Kenneth's Wanderings* (Digby,
Long & Co.), calls his book ; not quite correctly,
for it is a most polite production, inspired by
'Childe Harold,' treating of a pilgrimage, and
containing at least one quite original epithet :
"Yon tuffless rocks."

Life's Golden Age ; or, Juvenile Congress
(Digby, Long & Co.), by Mr. W. Cullingworth,
is an amazing production. It is written mainly
in heroic couplets, largely adorned with capital
letters, and addresses to "dear finite youth"
such counsel as this, and in such verse :—

A truthful childhood manhood's misrule shames.

At the end of the book the author assures his readers :—

Throughout my task—sensation to avoid—
Romantic fiction I have lain aside ;

and, recurring to his "dear finite youth," he concludes :—

Respectfully to you my feelings swell.

In a little book, nicely printed and nicely bound, Mr. Ernest Dowson presents to the world some forty or fifty sets of *Verses* (Smithers), almost all of them inscribed to big-little people, such as Mr. Arthur Symonds, Mr. Lionel Johnson, Mr. Aubrey Beardsley, and Mr. Selwyn Image. Save in this last instance there is no exoteric appropriateness in these dedications, unless they are intended to please by contrast. The poem dedicated to Mr. Beardsley deals with curds and cream ; the lines laid at the feet of Mr. Dowson's publisher deal with ladies' hands ; and 'Beata Solitudo' is with singular infelicity dedicated to Mr. Sam Smith. We wonder how Mr. Henry Darray relishes the dedication to him of a sonnet 'To One in Bedlam.' Mr. Dowson's primary inspiration would seem to have been found in the work of Mr. Swinburne, and, indeed, he is faithful to his first master in so far that he cribbs from him more than from any other poet. But the influence of Mr. Arthur Symonds is also to be noted here, and Mr. Dowson follows him in every affectation of style. In two things, however, he differs from his exemplar—he has not Mr. Symonds's audacity nor his spark of genius. These poems are not improper, but they are artificial, and there is from beginning to end no new idea, no phrase marked with the royal stamp. At the same time many of the verses are exceedingly pretty. Mr. Dowson knows the language fairly well : if only he had something to say !

SCANDINAVIAN NOVELS.

Siren Voices. By J. P. Jacobsen. Translated from the Danish by Ethel F. L. Robertson. (Heinemann.)—Mr. Gosse has done well to include a volume of the great Danish realist Jacobsen in his "International Series," but he would have done better still had 'Marie Grubbe,' instead of 'Nils Lyhne,' been the volume of his choice. The success of books like Mr. S. Weyman's points to a revival of the historical novel, and a more magnificent historical novel than 'Marie Grubbe' is not to be found in modern literature, unless we go all the way to Poland or Hungary for it. 'Nils Lyhne' is, indeed, a splendid exhibition of Jacobsen's marvellous style, and, as such, must captivate all lovers of superfine art ; but we fear it will be scarcely so successful with that healthy philistine the general reader, for whom the series to which it belongs is primarily intended. The defects of the book are at least as obvious as its qualities. It lacks incident and movement ; its characters are types and abstractions, the artificial creatures of a passing mood of the author's mind rather than living men and women ; and, above all, it is painfully, irremediably depressing, as a book about Decadents by a Decadent must almost necessarily be. The hero, for all his brilliant gifts, is essentially a poor, weak-willed creature, utterly unable to realize the least of his vaguely noble ambitions. Beginning his career with the consciousness of a power to which nothing seems impossible, he slowly but surely drifts towards moral shipwreck, toys with life instead of using it, deliberately debauches the wife of his bosom friend while waiting for the inspiration which never comes, and is only saved from a miserable old age by the bullet which strikes him down on the battle-field. The other characters are all cast in the same mould, and the whole story is pervaded by a morbid atmosphere of failure, disillusionment, and death. The translation is, on the whole, excellent. Here and there, indeed, there are slight errors

which a little care would have prevented, e.g., "aanded ud i dem" should have been rendered "breathed her soul out in them," not "breathed into them" (p. 168) ; "knogler der knuses i kjød" is, of course, "bones crushed into the flesh," not "crushed to powder," and the meaning of the metaphor is lost by this blunder ; and "unchaste" is too strong a rendering of *ublyfærdigt* : "immodest" would be much better. Still these are but trivialities. On the whole, the translator has done her work admirably, and we congratulate the editor and publisher on having placed such an exceptionally difficult book in such thoroughly competent hands.

The Fisher Lass, by Bjørnstjerne Bjørnson (Heinemann), marks the transition between Bjørnson's earlier and later manner—between Bjørnson the teller of irreproachable peasant tales and Bjørnson the preacher and teacher of startling ideas and aggressive theories. The first part of the story is altogether admirable. The description of the little fishing town is in the master's most attractive manner, and he has put into the story two of his best-drawn characters : the finely strung, emotional heroine Petra and her grim, masterful, explosive mother Gunlaug, one of those strong natures in whom Bjørnson has always delighted. The latter portion of the book, however, is given over to interminable discussions between all and sundry as to the possibility of a young woman, with a genius for the stage, being a good actress and a good Christian at the same time, so that what promised to be a fine analysis of character degenerates into a mere *Tendenzschrift*. The inevitable prig, usually a pastor or a pastor's son, who always plays a leading part in Bjørnson's moralities, as his later novels may well be called, is here also well to the front in the person of Hans Oedegaard, a terribly virtuous young man. The translation is meritorious, and quite free from the sort of blunders which disfigured 'Synnöve Solbakken,' an earlier volume of this "International Series." We would, however, point out to the translator that *ax* means an ear of corn, not a grain ; that "curate," not "assistant in the parish," is a better version of *hjelpepræst* ; while to render *Draug* by "bogies" is an offence which lovers of Northern folk-lore will find it difficult to forgive. Can it be possible that this translator of a Norse story has never heard of the untranslatable *Draug*, the terrible demon of the North Sea, who rides upon the stormy billow in a half-boat to lure mariners to their destruction ?

The Promised Land. From the Danish of Henrik Pontoppidan by Mrs. Edgar Lucas. (Dent & Co.)—We are glad to notice that Henrik Pontoppidan is gradually becoming known among us. It is now six years since the publication of 'The Apothecary's Daughters,' the first of his works, we believe, that was ever translated into English, and Messrs. Dent have just brought out adequate English versions of 'Muld' and its sequel, now before us, 'Det Forjættede Land.' Pontoppidan possesses many of the qualities which should make him popular with all classes of the English public. His art is cheerful, sane, and healthy ; he is a genuine humourist, with a keen eye, but also an indulgent smile, for the foibles of his fellows ; and his simple, concise, and pregnant style, pointed with light irony and graceful satire, reminding one occasionally of Guy de Maupassant, especially in his shorter stories, is that of the true *raconteur*. The present novel, as already mentioned, is the sequel to 'Muld,' also translated by Mrs. Edgar Lucas under the title of 'Emanuel ; or, Children of the Soil.' The "children of the soil" are, of course, the peasants, and Emanuel is an enthusiastic young parson who, in order to realize his Socialistic ideals, deliberately turns his back on all that wealth and culture can offer him, takes a peasant girl to wife, and settles down among the country-folk as one of

themselves. 'The Promised Land' is the pathetic story of his gradual disenchantment and somewhat shamefaced return to civilization, sacrificing in the process the noble wife of whom he is not worthy. It is an exceedingly clever study of the most diverse types of character, standing out against a vivid and convincing background of Danish village life and village politics. The parson himself, his much-enduring wife, his children, his self-seeking and unstable flock, to whom he sacrifices in vain seven of the best years of his life, and his aristocratic friends, who ultimately reclaim him, supply excellent entertainment. The translator has, on the whole, done her work well. Downright blunders are creditably few, but her sentences are occasionally (e.g., on pp. 151 and 195) clumsy and involved, faults of style which Herr Pontoppidan himself is absolutely incapable of committing. The book is prettily illustrated by Nelly Erichsen.

LOCAL HISTORY.

MR. SPENCE WATSON has done commendable service in writing *The History of the Literary and Philosophical Society of Newcastle-upon-Tyne* (Scott), which locally is affectionately called the "Lit and Phil." It was the indirect offspring of an older Philosophical Society founded in 1775, in the origin of which Marat, then practising in Newcastle as a veterinary surgeon, is by some believed to have had a share. In this belief we do not participate. Taking into account that one of the rules of the society in question was that on each night of its meeting the members should "discuss some Question, or Elucidate some Proposition with all the Freedom of Debate that is consistent with a decent Attention to those established Opinions, on the Belief of which the Welfare of Society in a great measure depends," it seems extremely improbable that Marat had anything to do with it. This first Philosophical Society speedily died. The "Lit and Phil" was founded in 1793, at a time when there was, as Mr. Spence Watson says, "only one other such Society in provincial England (in Manchester), and only three learned Societies even in London." It was founded principally as "a conversational Society," and had not all discussion of religion or politics at home or abroad been prohibited there would have been exciting matter for discussion at its first meeting, for sixteen days before that took place Louis XVI. had been guillotined. At first no attempt was made to form a library, but "an arrangement was made for the systematic borrowing of books by the members from one another." All the arrangements were humble. Meetings took place in a room for which six guineas a year were paid ; but the society progressed from room to room at an increased rent and better fittings until, in 1798, it was equipped with a "lanthorn to light the entry and a pair of snuffers for the use of members," besides books and valuable fossils. In 1801 there was one lady reader ; in 1804, two. They obtained admission with difficulty, spinning then being considered a better occupation for a woman than reading ; but before long women were not only allowed to become members, but "it was considered that some mode of election must be found less revolting to their delicacy than the usual nomination." The society has manifestly always had in it the principle of life ; it has survived great mismanagement and misfortune. In February, 1893, on the morning after a conversation in celebration of its centenary, the larger part of its building was burnt, and yet the "Lit and Phil" is now stronger than ever. It well deserves its success : it has always treated its members liberally ; it has always devoted money, energy, and thought to the great questions which affect the lives and prosperity of the workers in the important manufacturing district of which Newcastle is the centre. From the very foundation of the

society scientific men have had every facility for making known and testing the value of any discovery they may have made. In 1805 a lecture was given or paper read 'On the Propriety of introducing Roads on the Principle of Coal Waggonways for the General Conveyance of Goods, with a Particular Reference to shewing the Practicability of a Road on this Principle from Newcastle to Hexham.' This was one of the many schemes for railway making which appeared and disappeared before the great invention obtained full attention. There were lectures 'On Fire and Choke Damp in Coal Mines,' 'On the Natural History of Coal,' &c.; and nearly every eminent man in almost every branch of science and art has had the society for his audience. Mr. Spence Watson has performed his task well and genially; but it is to be feared that he has not a proper horror of the havoc wrought by Mr. Richard Grainger under the guise of improving the town of Newcastle.

Gloucestershire Notes and Queries. Edited by W. P. W. Phillimore, M.A. Vol. VI. (London, Simpkin, Marshall & Co.; Gloucester, Davies & Son.)—This is a most useful county publication, which has now been issued for upwards of eighteen years, and has gone on steadily improving. The most valuable part of the periodical is the account of such monumental brasses as are now remaining. This work has not been undertaken a day too soon, for several of them have suffered mutilation in what we are compelled to regard as modern times. The careful descriptions here supplied may, it is to be hoped, hinder future losses. If this be not so, we shall at least possess accurate descriptions of the Gloucestershire brasses as they existed towards the end of the nineteenth century. It is a pity Mr. Phillimore has not been able to give engravings of all of them. This, we imagine, has been found impossible, but illustrations of such parts of them as are especially interesting are supplied. We have a little engraving of a purse or "gipsy," such as Chaucer's Frankelien wore. It occurs on the effigy of Thomas Rowley, merchant and sheriff of Bristol, who died in 1478, and was buried in St. John's Church in that city. Attached to this purse is a rosary of, as it seems, sixteen beads, but it is possible that some others may be meant to be understood as hidden. In any case, it seems unlikely that a rosary such as those now in use among Roman Catholics here and elsewhere can be intended, as they are commonly divided into decades. We have seen several old portraits where the beads which the ladies wear are not divided into tens. The subject requires investigation. It is possible that in days previous to the Reformation the number of beads may at times have depended very much on the fancy of the wearer. Another "gipsy," which the writer regards as of about 1480, is figured from a brass in the church of St. Mary, Redcliffe. Here it is also accompanied by a rosary, but in this instance there is nothing to remark upon: the beads are divided into two sections, each containing ten. The interesting notes on Hanham Court are accompanied by well-executed illustrations. The building seems to be still in good repair, therefore it is to be hoped that it may continue to be preserved from decay and restoration. Readers will wish the writer had told them more about it and accompanied his remarks by a plan. Adjoining the Court is an Early English church, consisting of a nave, choir, and south aisle. There is too, we hear, an interesting Norman font. We do not understand whether the church is still in use or not. The writer conjectures that it was dedicated to St. George because one of the bells in the tower is inscribed to him. This cannot be admitted as evidence; in fact, it rather favours the idea that the church's dedication was to some one else. The accounts of bell inscriptions which have already been issued seem to prove, so far as they go, that the bells were rarely dedicated to the patron of the church.

If the fabric has ever been a place of burial, its dedication is almost sure to be mentioned in pre-Reformation wills. Old barns are much rarer than old churches; there is, however, one here, which is thus spoken of:—

"Situate a few yards to the north of this western wing there is a large barn, whose massive walls and buttresses and rounded arch on the eastern side seem to point to its being of the late Norman period."

If this be so it should be tenderly cared for. An engraving is given, but it is not very instructive. Upton St. Leonards, near Gloucester, has a common field—if it has not already been enclosed—which is a relic of an early form of culture by no means uncommon in the last century, but now almost entirely swept away. There are between five and six hundred acres, thus described:—

"It is all common land, held in severally by the various owners during part of the year until the crops are removed, and after harvest subject to be depastured in common by the stock of the freeholders. Each tract is made up of a number of unfenced strips, of which there are in all about 1,130, of the average size of half-an-acre, belonging to more than 80 owners."

The dog-whipper has become a thing of the past; the last instance we can call to mind of that functionary being paid a salary for his work occurred somewhere about eighty years ago, but in some places dogs were accustomed to follow their masters and mistresses to church at a much later period. Pattens, at least of the old kind, are never seen nowadays, but there must be among our readers not a few who can remember the clatter of the pattens as the old women thronged into church on a Sunday. The following inscription, painted on a board, is still to be seen in the north porch of Hawkesbury Church:—

"It is desired that all Persons that do come to this Church would be careful to leave their Dogs at home & that the Women would not walk in with their Pattens."

The will of Robert Ingram, executed in 1543, is curious as marking a time of transition. He leaves his soul to God, but the saints are not mentioned; had it been executed ten years earlier it is almost certain that they would not have been omitted.

Bygone Sussex, by W. E. A. Axon (Andrews & Co.), is, on the whole, a creditable specimen of the "Bygone" series. Although written in a popular style, it avoids the snare of sentimental weakness, and keeps clear of serious errors. The best, however, that can be said for these books of gossip about the past is that they may awaken in their readers an interest in the history of their district. The longest paper, 'In Denis Duval's Country,' is a pleasant enough sketch of Rye, which is evidently a favourite spot with the author. 'Pardon Brasses' is perhaps the most ambitious essay in the volume. Sussex ballads and chap-books have been ransacked, but a good deal of feeble modern poetry, which also appears, might have been omitted. The legend of the 'Merchant of Chichester,' rescued abroad from the gallows by a maiden offering to marry him, is widespread, as the author observes; but he is not aware that the practice was legally recognized in France, as is proved by the 'Établissement de Rouen.' The illustrations, which are from photographs, are successful, and the book is provided with an index.

In his reissue of *Rambles in Galloway* (Dalbeattie, Fraser; London, Fisher Unwin) Mr. Malcolm McL. Harper has revised the first edition of his work, published twenty years ago and long out of print, and added much to it in the shape both of new materials and of fresh illustrations. Since the book came out the district has leapt into an unexpected popularity through the stories of Mr. Crockett, and doubtless many of those who have been fascinated by 'The Raiders,' 'The Lilac Sunbonnet,' and other Galloway tales, will be glad to consult Mr.

Harper's pages for a more detailed account of their favourite scenes. A good index enhances the value of the volume, which is dedicated to Sir Mark Stewart, Bart., M.P. for the Stewartry of Kirkcudbright. The pictures, by numerous hands, are adequate, but the older woodblocks, which are a good deal the worse for wear, might well have been discarded.

Annals of Garelochside, by William Charles Maughan (Paisley, Gardner), is a commendable expansion of 'Rosneath Past and Present,' reviewed by us three years ago as "one of the best parish histories that Scotland has produced." It takes in, besides Rosneath on the western side of the Gareloch, the opposite parishes of Cardross and Row, the latter containing the watering-place of Helensburgh and the well-known Shandon Hydropathic. Rosneath has certainly the more interesting history; still, in Cardross Castle died Robert the Bruce; Tobias Smollett was born in the old mansion-house of Dalquhurn; and Row has its memories of the bloody clan-battle of Glenfruin (1603), of the great heresy-hunt of Dr. McLeod Campbell, of the "father of steam navigation," Henry Bell, and of Madeleine Smith, Mr. Bradlaugh, and the "Terror of the Clyde." We still notice the same strong natural bias to the house of Campbell; and we still hold that Huntly was no rebel in 1644, but that Argyll was one in 1685.

CLASSICAL SCHOOL-BOOKS.

Pitt Press Series.—The Alcestis of Euripides. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by W. S. Hadley, M.A. (Cambridge, University Press.)—Mr. Hadley's commentary is, on the whole, good, but he halts between teaching Greek in general and the Greek of the 'Alcestis' in particular, so that Mr. Sherlock Holmes would probably infer that he had vamped up college lecture notes into an edition. We notice a suspicion of that facility of assertion which Mr. Hadley should allow others to monopolize. For instance, it would take a bulky volume to defend the statement made on v. 17 that "an indefinite relative may not refer to a definite antecedent." The best feature of the book is the trenchant criticism in the introduction of Dr. Verrall's view of the 'Alcestis.'

Pitt Press Series.—M. Annaei Lucani de Bello Civili Liber VII. With Introduction, Notes, and Critical Appendix by J. P. Postgate, Litt.D. (Cambridge, University Press.)—Any publication by Dr. Postgate on Latin poetry must be welcome to scholars, and an instalment of a fresh edition of Lucan's 'Pharsalia' is particularly acceptable, as the labours of previous editors, however meritorious, have left much to be desired. Perhaps textual criticism will be regarded as the most important feature of the work. The correction of *erigitur* (v. 141) to *corrigitur* is convincing in the light of the editor's explanation and illustrations. The transfer of the comma to the end of v. 216 is a slight change of excellent effect. The exhaustive treatment of vv. 462 f. is worthy of special attention. Our editor reads:—

Quo sua pila cadant, aut quam sibi fata minentur
Inde manum, spectant; gultusque ac noscere tempus.

In v. 43 for the verb of "quorum gemitus edere (vv. ll. sedere, odere) dolorem" we prefer *solvere* to our editor's *clausere*, as nearer to the MSS. and a more satisfactory meaning. The text "is based in the main on the critical materials collected in the Teubner edition of Dr. C. Hosius," an acknowledgment which scarcely does justice to Dr. Postgate's industry and accuracy. The historical introduction is exhaustive and full of spirit. In a future edition Dr. Postgate might occasionally pay more attention to the needs of immature or rusty students.

Pitt Press Series.—Tacitus, Histories, Book I. Edited, with Introduction, Notes, and Index, by G. A. Davies, M.A. (Cambridge, University Press.)—Notwithstanding duly acknowledged indebtedness to Halm for text and Karl Heriäus

for notes, this edition is only partly "made in Germany." It appears on the Pitt Press list of "Books suitable for Various Examinations, 1897-8." There is a full and useful commentary and a creditable historical introduction. The remarks on "corrupta castra" (chap. xxviii.) afford a good example of sound and independent work. The construction is explained as accusative or infinitive dependent on a participle supplied from "metuens" by Zeugma.

The Gallic War of Julius Caesar, Book VI. With Introduction, Notes, and Appendices by J. Brown, B.A. (Blackie & Son.)—The notes and exercises, forty-four in number, of this elementary reader are good, but the vocabulary is carelessly prepared. Many marks of quantity are left out, as in "detrimentum" for "detrimentum"; and the adj. *aliqui* (chap. xiii.) is omitted.

The Plutus of Aristophanes. Edited, with Introduction and Notes, by M. T. Quinn, M.A. (Bell & Sons.)—This edition is not devoid of merit, but still its publication is scarcely justified either by freshness of treatment or exhaustiveness. The καὶ of vv. 8, 17, 44, ought to have notes; the MS. reading of vv. 119, 120, ought to be retained, as *ἐὶ πρὸς* is not a contradiction of *εἰδός*, but a parenthetical variation dramatically appropriate to the perturbation of the speaker; *ὑπαίτιν*, v. 997, is not "to add," but *to hint*; while just before the order *τῶν τοῦ πινυκὸς τραγῳδία* ἐκείνη requires a note. Surely *ὅπως ἐναγνίσταιμι πρῶτον ἐξῶν*, v. 41, is a girl at Euripides, 'Ion,' 787 ff.; compare also v. 10 with 'Ion,' 435 ff.

Demosthenes against Conon and Callicles. Edited, with Notes, Appendices, and Vocabulary, by F. Darwin Swift, M.A. (Methuen & Co.)—This elementary edition of two well-selected speeches seems about up to the average of such productions. However, *ἐπάγεσθαι* is hardly "undertake," and the editor seems a little weak as to the idiom of *ἀπα*, "after all," with a past tense (p. 38). The translation of *ὅλος* as "while" in the vocabulary appears to be a misprint.

Masters who are too lazy or incompetent to consult the special needs of their classes will find *Easy Greek Grammar Papers*, by F. Ritchie, M.A. (Longmans), 140 in number, useful, and of course examiners can pick out any number of papers from them with very little trouble.

Upon *A First Greek Reading Book* (Rivington, Percival & Co.) Mr. A. Sidgwick has bestowed immense pains in making practicable and attractive the method of beginning the study of Greek—after learning the letters and mastering a little elementary grammar (seven short pages in this case)—by reading continuous narratives containing easy compound sentences. We recommend teachers and scholars to give this method, as ably developed by Mr. Sidgwick, a fair trial.

The Student's Companion to Latin Authors, by G. Middleton and J. R. Mills (Macmillan), furnishes in a brief and convenient form all the important facts relating to the principal Latin authors. The chief authorities are quoted in the original, and there is a useful appendix containing a select list of editions. The book is really well arranged, and, as there is a distinct want of some such brief account in view of the University and Civil Service examinations, it will no doubt be widely used. In the section on Horace some notes on his philosophy might be added, and Pollio should be mentioned as a poet-friend of his and Virgil's. The absence of critical appreciation means a great saving of space, but the addition of the verdicts of well-known authorities like Quintilian would not take up much room and might be considered for a future edition.

Epigraphy is a study which no modern classical scholar can neglect, and Prof. Egbert, of Columbia College, in his *Introduction to the Study of Latin Inscriptions* (Longmans) has filled a distinct gap. Though his work makes no claim to be original, it gathers up satisfac-

torily the labours of the best continental scholars. Examples of all sorts are fully and lucidly treated with many illustrations. We note as especially well done the inscriptions which treat of the emperors and the very useful table of abbreviations (pp. 416-460). Difficulties such as the use of "imperator" are adequately explained, but occasionally, as in the case of the "Fratres Arvales," compression has concealed debatable ground. The use of exclamation marks to indicate letters hopelessly erased gives a very startling look to some pages. There is some awkward writing about the signs for the dead on p. 231, but the style as a whole is clear and easy. A protest against Americanisms would probably nowadays be insular, if not nugatory.

Messrs. Rivington, Percival & Co. have sent us several copies of their "Single-Term Latin Readers," all by Mr. W. Greenstock. The idea of a book for each term seems a good one, and is here well carried out. We have seen a better Latin version of Herodotus for boys than that of *Second Term—Book I.*; but his stories are quite the right thing to attract young learners. *Livy (Third Term—Book I.)* is too hard for elementary work, although the notes and vocabularies are both very full.

ANNUALS.

Politics in 1896: an Annual, edited by Mr. Frederick Whelan, and published by Mr. Grant Richards, is an excellent book, as most competent writers have been chosen for the various subjects. We almost doubt, however, whether it is likely to be a success as a book of reference and as an annual publication. The articles are of the kind which we expect to find in the best magazines, and are like many others by first-rate writers which appear from month to month. They are not specially designed for future reference. There is a Conservative view of the year by Mr. Traill; a Liberal view by Mr. Massingham; a so-called Socialist view (but more properly Fabian view) of remarkable ability by Mr. Bernard Shaw, who is as brilliant and as full of ideas as usual, but who will be sniffed at by the strict Socialist, who will probably, on the whole, dislike his article more than he will either that of Mr. Traill or that of Mr. Massingham. Mr. G. W. Stevens writes most competently on foreign affairs, and Mr. H. W. Wilson excellently upon the navy. There is a thoughtful and clever article by Capt. Maude upon the army, but it is a little provoking, as it does not really give Capt. Maude's view of what should be done. His criticisms on what exists and on what is being done are powerful, but he does not frankly adhere to either the newer naval or the newer military school, and he tantalizes his readers by stopping a little short of a conclusion.

The Literary Year-Book, 1897 (G. Allen), edited by Mr. Aflalo, is a new enterprise, and is, therefore, not to be judged harshly, although it contains some startling pronouncements couched in language not usual in a book of reference; for instance:—

"The strong and liberal atmosphere breathed and exhaled by Walt Whitman seems, on the other hand, to belong to some huge and billowy epic scented from his (?) peak in the hollows of some adjacent era, wherein the innumerable intellectual tendencies of the present age shall discharge themselves finally and peacefully."

Mr. Aflalo would do well to remember that a year-book is intended to provide information, and not flowery writing of this sort.—*Greenwood's Library Year-Book, 1897* (Cassell), is much less ambitious and more useful. Mr. Greenwood is an enthusiast, and is inclined to attribute more virtues to public libraries than other people see in them; but he has collected his matter with diligence, and arranged it carefully, so that his volume is full of information.—We have praised before now *The Public Schools Year-Book* (Sonnenschein), but it has still

some defects. What does the mysterious sentence mean regarding Loretto, which can hardly be called a public school in the ordinary sense of the word: "Loretto School belongs to its present Head Master, but it is his wish and purpose to found it"? Why is that excellent school Llandoverly not mentioned? and, as we once asked before, on what principle is Felsted included and Bury St. Edmunds omitted?

That most welcome annual *The English Catalogue of Books* has reached us from Messrs. Sampson Low & Co. The titles are now printed in full—a decided improvement.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

MR. MURRAY publishes *The Navy and the Nation*, by Lieut.-Col. Sir George Clarke and Mr. James R. Thursfield, writers of high authority, who reprint valuable articles from the *Times*, the *Quarterly Review*, and some of the magazines, and prefix a short introduction. The introduction lays down excellent principles in clear language to the effect that if the seas are held, territorial security, both at home and abroad, is thus provided, and that if they are not so held, no army and no fortifications which we are likely to possess can avert national ruin. The authors, perhaps, push their principles a little far when they ask of what use were declamation and diplomatic warfare, estranging the United Kingdom and Russia, over the inevitable advance of Russia towards India; for their language upon this point, and also with regard to a Russian occupation of Constantinople, seems to suggest that the advance of Russia towards India, and the fortification by her of the Dardanelles, with the perfect naval base of the immense Black Sea behind, would constitute no danger, no menace, no evil even, to the policy of this country. There are other considerations which enter into the account. The military defence of India becomes more difficult and more costly, and the holding of the Mediterranean is affected in like manner. Sir George Clarke in his first essay, a paper which was read in February, 1896, speaks of the naval and military expenditure of the Empire as being fifty-three millions in the year, but sixty-three millions would have been a more accurate figure; for Sir George Clarke can hardly have included loan moneys in his account, and there is no possible reason for drawing a distinction between moneys spent in the year out of loan and moneys spent out of taxes. He must also, we think, have neglected the heavy supplementary estimates of February last. Mr. Thursfield's most valuable essay on 'Naval Manœuvres and their Lessons' sums up the principles of the authors in another set of words from that used in the preface, which is also worthy of recollection, to the effect that we must make our defence an active one; and he points out (as Admiral P. Colomb, expanding the same idea, has also lately done) that we have spent, and are still spending, far too much money upon fixed defence of various kinds, compared with what we spend upon our mobile resources, military and naval. One of the most useful papers in the volume is that called 'England and the Mediterranean,' by Sir George Clarke, in which he has shown the danger of a policy which has been advocated by such high authorities as Mr. Arnold-Forster and Mr. Laird Clowes, and supported by Mr. Shaw-Lefevre and some other Liberal politicians, who desire that we should abandon the Mediterranean, and mask it from without. Mr. Arnold-Forster and "Nauticus" have done such good work that their names naturally carry the greatest weight, but Capt. Mahan has well shown, and Sir George Clarke proves, that we cannot divide the seas and retire from such a sea as the Mediterranean with the effect of increasing the cheapness of our defence. Sir George Clarke, however, goes too far, for he seems to

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imply that it would be possible to use the Mediterranean and Suez Canal as a trade route in time of dangerous war—a contention in which the best sailors fail to follow him. The statements of Sir George Clarke in this paper are, perhaps, slightly at variance with the suggestions of the introduction to which he has set his name. In the introduction he seems to discourage the military occupation of Egypt and the military tenancy of Cyprus, while in the paper 'England and the Mediterranean' he shows that he thinks that the occupation of Egypt is of some military value, and he uses the phrase "Cyprus reverts to the Porte" (of the policy of Mr. Laird Clowes) as though he disliked to contemplate its loss. There is no absolute contradiction, but there is a difference of tone which will mislead the ordinary reader. On the whole, we can highly commend this valuable republication.

Some Unconventional People. By Mrs. Gladwyn Jebb. (Blackwood & Sons.)—Readers of 'The Life and Adventures of John Gladwyn Jebb,' which we noticed rather more than two years ago, will remember that that romantic book was written by his widow, who had passed some years in Mexico, and had enjoyed many strange experiences. Miners, prospectors, concession hunters, frontiersmen, and, of course, Mexicans, were the "unconventional people" who entered largely into the life of the Jebbs, and these are now characteristically described in just a dozen chapters. It can hardly be expected that readers who have never met with such persons will enjoy this little book as much as we have done; but the stories are told so briskly and with so much humour that they appeal to many tastes. Some are rather pathetic and in the style with which Bret Harte has familiarized us, but the majority are amusing throughout; amongst these 'Concerning a Mine,' describing how a swindling Mexican mine-owner was outwitted by his expected victim, in whom the reader is fairly entitled to recognize Jebb himself. But we will give an extract from 'The Ways of Guadalupe' (adopting Mrs. Jebb's orthography for the name) and let the reader judge. The heroine came to the house as if to pay a call, but inquiry showed that she wished for a place "on the staff," and having been appointed to the post of parlour-maid, she proceeded to perform her duties in truly Mexican fashion. Under conciliatory admonition her improvement was so rapid that her employers ventured upon a dinner-party, and Guadalupe dressed the table—likewise herself—most becomingly: after which she disappeared, not only for one but for forty psychological minutes, and was found calmly flirting with the postman, her chief admirer. Then she remarked that, "after all, men were foolish creatures, and she intended having no more to do with them," kept her word for five months, went away for a week's holiday, and returned at the end of a fortnight wreathed in dimples and smiles:—

"What have you been doing, Guadalupe?" she was asked, with an attempt at severity which failed lamentably in view of the truant's futile efforts to put on a suitable expression.

"Nothing but this, Señora," replied Guadalupe, proceeding carefully to unroll a bundle which had been tucked away beneath her *rebozo*.

"Good Heavens! Why, it's a baby," exclaimed the Señora in horrified accents.

"Yes," said Guadalupe calmly; "isn't it a pretty one?"

"But, what—why—you can't bring it here, you know," expostulated the scandalized mistress.

"Oh, yes, I can," said the baby's unabashed mamma. "It is very quiet, and I won't let it disturb the Señora."

"But you don't seem to understand," said the Señora; "it's wrong—wicked—it isn't respectable. We must do something about it. Who—Who—?"

"The postman," Guadalupe replied, with equanimity; "but he has heard nothing of it, and I shan't tell him."

"Oh, but you must, and your master shall speak seriously to him. We must see if we can't get him to marry you."

"If the Señora does not object," said the culprit, 'I don't want to marry him.'

"Why not?" almost gasped her listener.

"Because I don't like him well enough!" said Guadalupe.

MR. MURRAY has sent us a new and revised edition of *Sophocles in English Verse*, by Prof. Campbell, which we reviewed on its appearance in 1883. A more regular correspondence between strophe and antistrophe is the chief alteration since then; and the execution of the lyric portions in rhymed verse, a task of extreme difficulty, is as good as anything we have seen of the sort. We still prefer Mr. Whitelaw's version in the dialogue, and remark that some weak places which we noted have not received attention, but the rendering is not devoid of spirit, and was quite worth reprinting.

IN *Lyrics in Prose* by De Quincey (George Allen) Mr. R. B. Johnson has made some good selections from the highly coloured prose of the Opium-Eater. The little volume is a pretty one, and, though small enough to go into the pocket, clearly printed.

THE Comte de Saint-Aulaire, who has previously written some books that we have praised, now publishes, through M. Calmann Lévy, *Lettres de Vieillesse: Études Contemporaines*—a series of imaginary letters from a cardinal archbishop to another French bishop, from a former French ambassador to a former French judge, and between men of science, painters, critics, and so forth. We are unable to say much that is good of them, although they are well written, and not open to any serious attack, except on the ground that the archbishop and bishop, writing against the present policy of the Pope, write as ecclesiastics talk to one another, but not in the form in which they trust their opinions upon paper. The rather nice old people who fill M. de Saint-Aulaire's pages with their views write otherwise very like real people, but rather tiresome people, so that it was not necessary to make a volume of their views.

MESSRS. CHAPMAN & HALL have sent us another instalment of their handsome "Centenary Edition" of Carlyle's works. It contains *Heroes and Hero-Worship*, and is enriched with photogravures of Shakespeare (the Stratford bust), Rousseau from a contemporary mezzotint, and Napoleon. Mr. Traill's introduction furnishes judicious and acute criticism of the celebrated lectures.—Volumes XVII. and XVIII. of the excellent edition of "The Novels of Capt. Marryat," which Messrs. Dent are publishing and Mr. Brimley Johnson edits, contain that admirable story for boys *Masterman Ready* and *The Settlers in Canada*. Mr. Symington's etchings in the latter tale are excellent.—In their collection of the prose writings of Mr. John Davidson, Messrs. Ward & Downey have issued a volume (the fourth) containing *Ninian Jamieson* and *A Practical Novelist*.—Messrs. Newnes have been well advised to reprint Curzon's delightful book *Visits to the Monasteries of the Levant*, but they should have added an index, suppressed the frontispiece, and perhaps added two or three foot-notes correcting the slight mistakes which Curzon let pass untouched in his sixth edition.

We have received the catalogues of Mr. Baker, Mr. Edwards (good), Messrs. Karslake & Co. (interesting), Messrs. Luzac & Co. (Oriental and African literature), Messrs. Maurice & Co., Mr. Menken (two), Mr. Myers, Mr. Nutt (good), Mr. Spencer, and Messrs. Suckling & Galloway, and from the Theosophical Publishing Society a catalogue of theosophical books. We have also catalogues from Mr. Thistlewood and Mr. Wilson of Birmingham, Mr. Murray of Derby (good), Mr. Brown, Messrs. Douglas & Foulis, and Mr. Grant (two, interesting) of Edinburgh, Mr. Young of Liverpool, Messrs. Slatter & Rose of Oxford, Messrs. Hitchman & Co. of Sheffield, and Messrs. Gilbert & Sons of Southampton.

We have on our table *Selections from Auerbach's Schwarzwälder Dorfgeschichten*, edited by J. F. Davis and A. Weiss (Whittaker).—*Single-Term Greek Readers: Second Term, Book III.* (Rivington).—*Light as the Interpretation of the Law of Gravity*, by A. M. Cameron (Sydney, Angus & Robertson).—*Advanced Mechanics: Vol. II. Statics*, by W. Briggs and G. H. Bryan (Clive).—*Transformers for Single and Multi-phase Currents*, by G. Kapp (Whittaker).—*Hygiene for Beginners*, by E. S. Reynolds (Macmillan).—*Cycling as a Cause of Heart Disease*, by G. Herschell, M.D. (Baillière, Tindall & Cox).—*The Education of the Central Nervous System*, by R. P. Hallack (Macmillan).—*The Economy of Temperance*, by J. J. Baker (C.E.T.S.).—*Intaglio Engraving, Past and Present*, by E. Renton (Bell).—*Table Mountain: Pictures with Pen and Camera*, by A. V. Hall (Juta & Co.).—*Rich and Poor*, by Mrs. B. Bosanquet (Macmillan).—*A Little Lass and Lad*, by S. Tytler (S.P.C.K.).—*Three Little Wise Men*, by W. E. Cule (S.S.U.).—*Men who Win, or Making Things Happen*, by W. M. Thayer (Nelson).—*Shod with Silence*, by E. S. Ellis (Cassell).—*The Sentimental Vikings*, by R. V. Risleigh (Lane).—*Harold the Norseman*, by F. Whishaw (Nelson).—*The Chest of Opium*, by Mr. M. (Neville Beeman).—*Rada*, by H. Vacaresco and G. Sarmiento (Fisher Unwin).—*Who Can Say?* by E. E. Smyth (C.E.T.S.).—*Armenosa of Egypt: a Romance of the Arab Conquest*, by C. H. Butcher (Blackwood).—*Molly Melville*, by E. Everett-Green (Nelson).—*The Douvres Determination*, by F. Severne (Digby & Long).—*The Sermon on the Mount*, by C. Gore, D.D. (Murray).—*Life after Death*, by Bishop Lars Nielson Dale, translated from the Norse by the Rev. J. Beveridge (Edinburgh, T. & T. Clark).—*God and the Soul*, by R. A. Armstrong (Green).—*Archbishop Benson in Ireland*, edited by J. H. Bernard, D.D. (Macmillan).—*The Battle of the Bays*, by O. Seaman (Lane).—*Poems of a Naturalist*, by M. S. C. Rickards (Chiswick Press).—*L'Idée Spiritualiste*, by Roisel (Paris, Alcan).—*L'Hiver en Méditation, ou les Passe-temps de Clarisse*, by Saint-Georges de Bouhélier (Paris, 'Mercure de France').—*Die Syntax in den Werken Alfreds des Grossen*, by Dr. J. E. Wülfing (Bonn, Hanstein).—*Gotisches Elementarbuch*, by Dr. W. Streiberg (Heidelberg, Winter).—*Pages Choies des Auteurs Contemporains: E. et J. de Goncourt* (Paris, Colin).—*and Le Mystère de la Rue Carême-Prenant*, by A. Robida (Paris, Colin).

LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH.

Theology.

- Barnes-Lawrence's (Rev. A. E.) *Secrets of Sanctity, a Series of Addresses*, cr. 8vo, 2/6 cl.
Brooks's (Right Rev. P.) *The More Abundant Life*, Lenten Readings, cr. 8vo, 6/ cl.
Cobbett's (W.) *History of the Protestant Reformation*, edited by F. A. Gasquet, cr. 8vo, 2/ net.
Humphrey's (W.) *His Divine Majesty, or the Living God*, cr. 8vo, 4/6 net.
Lias's (J. J.) *The Nicene Creed, a Manual for Use of Candidates for Holy Orders*, cr. 8vo, 6/ cl.
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- Maude's (W. C.) *Property Law for General Readers*, 3/6 cl.

Fine Art.

- Brown's (C.) *The Horse in Art and Nature*, Part 3, 2/6 bds.
Cosway, Richard, R.A., and his Wife and Pupils, by G. C. Williamson, royal 8vo, 25/ net.
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Poetry.

- Goethe's *Faust* (the so-called First Part, 1770-1808) in English, with Introduction by R. McIntock, 8vo, 10/ net.
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- Fitzgerald's (P. F.) *The Rational or Scientific Ideal of Morality*, royal 8vo, 7/6 cl.
Schopenhauer's (A.) *On Human Nature, Essays in Ethics and Politics*, selected by T. B. Saunders, cr. 8vo, 2/6 cl.

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Krasinska (Françoise, Countess), Great-grandmother of Victor Emmanuel, Journal of, 18mo. 5/ net.
Lisle, Laura de, a sketch of her Life, &c., by A. P. F. Cruikshank, 8vo. 2/ net.
Nansen, Fridtjof, Scientist and Explorer, Life of, by J. A. Bain, cr. 8vo. 6/ cl.

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Lodge's (G. T.) Coloured Handbook to Kindergarten Geography, 4to. 2/ cl.
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Bibliography.

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THE CORONATION OF THE CONQUEROR.

THE current number of the *English Historical Review* contains a valuable note by Mr. W. H. Stevenson on the important and peculiar charter of the Conqueror for the London house of St. Martin-le-Grand, of which he had already edited the text with his wonted skill and learning. But it is startling, I confess, to learn that one of the greatest events in our history, the coronation of the Conqueror, took place at Christmas, 1067, and not, as every historian has believed, at Christmas, 1066. Mr. Stevenson, whose authority on these subjects is certainly unsurpassed, shows that this remarkable charter, though dated 1063, was executed on Christmas Day, 1067, and that, consequently, "the witnesses were the spectators of William's coronation, which gives the charter its greatest historical importance." Among them is Hugh, Bishop of Lisieux, who as "a kinsman of William's" was "not unlikely to be present at his coronation," while the influence of the still mysterious Ingelric is proved by his obtaining the execution of the charter "at so important a ceremony as the king's coronation and a confirmation of it at the queen's coronation" (Whitsuntide, 1068). According, indeed, to Mr. Stevenson, "Freeman says that the date of the charter, Christmas, 1068, evidently means 1067, the date of William's coronation." But Mr. Freeman only speaks of the usual "Christmas Feast" of 1067: he assigned the coronation, like the rest of the world, to Christmas, 1066.

When Mr. Stevenson gives us the proofs for a discovery the credit of which is due to himself alone, he will, I hope, also deal with the real stumbling-block in this charter, Cardinal John's emphatic words, "huic constitutioni interfui," which he has not yet done. It was on the ground of the cardinals' presence that Mr. Freeman very naturally doubted its authenticity; but it may, no doubt, be capable of proof, by those more learned in such matters than myself, that the above words do not imply the witness's presence at the time. This, of course, is quite independent of the question of "supplementary confirmations," the existence of which is as familiar to me as to all students, I presume, of mediæval *diplomatique*.

J. H. ROUND.

MELANCHTHON.

THE fourth centenary of Melancthon's birth occurs on the 16th inst. Although it is an event which will be duly observed all over Protestant Germany and elsewhere in Northern Europe, it might easily pass without notice in England, especially at a moment when an anti-scientific reaction, in the guise of a spurious Catholicism, appears to have gained a hold on the lettered classes. At no time has the man who, in a unique way, combined the efforts of the Humanists with the teaching of the Reformers, attracted so much attention as he deserves at the hands of Englishmen. And yet he possessed an aggregate of qualities which ought to recommend him in this country; for he was not only a foe to the tyranny of Rome, but also an apostle of culture and a guardian of public order. He was imbued with that spirit of compromise which has done much to mould our own institutions; like some of the best of our writers he gave an ethical tendency to many of his theological theories; and he was full of zeal and activity in the cause of education.

Melancthon was eminently the child of his time. He represented and developed its movements rather than created them. His early training fell within the years in which Humanism reached its height—the first fifteen or twenty years of the sixteenth century—when Erasmus was publishing his best writings, and Reuchlin was battling with the monks. Under the personal guidance of Reuchlin, who was his great-uncle, he eagerly learned all that Humanism could teach him. He entered the University

of Heidelberg at the age of twelve, spent three years there, and six at Tübingen, and in both places he devoted all his energies to the work which the older men had begun. Even in his youth he acquired a great reputation as a scholar, and at the age of twenty-one he was chosen on Reuchlin's recommendation to be the first professor of Greek at Wittenberg. There he passed at once under Luther's influence, placed all his learning and eloquence at the service of the Reformers, reduced their doctrines to a system, defended them with tongue and pen, drew up or inspired many of their important documents, and became, in a word, the general secretary of the movement in which they were engaged.

But he was never wholly or merely a theologian. From time to time he wearied of controversy, and bewailed the fate which had drawn him aside from other pursuits. He found his chief solace in lectures on classical authors; he attracted students, often to the number of two thousand, from all parts of Europe; and, as was still possible for an industrious worker in those days, he took an active and productive interest in the entire range of human knowledge, writing assiduously on history, philosophy, and natural science of every kind. Thus it was that he earned and received the title of tutor of his country, "Præceptor Germaniæ."

In his theology he made no secret of the fact that he was dependent on Luther, and the close friendship between the two men was a highly important element in their personal history. It was a friendship, however, which was not equal or similar on both sides. It admitted of much diversity of opinion. With a profound belief in all that Protestantism had won for the world by fighting a superstitious tyranny, Melancthon always entertained a great respect for tradition, and a strong sense of order and continuity; and so he persisted in hoping for a final reconciliation with the Roman Church long after more ardent Lutherans had assumed an attitude of aggressive hostility. He also showed an increasing tendency, as life wore on, to soften the rigour of Luther's views; to emphasize, for instance, the ethical element in the doctrine of grace and to empty the theory of predestination of much of its meaning. These and other features of his thought aroused great suspicion and antagonism in his last years, and so greatly was his existence embittered that he longed for death as a release from the *rabies theologorum*. Possibly he exercised a more potent influence in the domain of learning than in that of religion. Whenever, as often happened, the Humanist cause was attacked by the philistinism of the Reformers, Melancthon defended it with zeal and energy, and in the Protestant universities and schools his system of teaching long remained in force.

T. B. S.

SAMUEL PEPYS'S WILL.

IT is curious that, so far as I know, Pepys's will has never been printed, though some of its principal provisions have been mentioned, and directions respecting the library have been printed from the Harleian MSS. The will is of great length, but perhaps Mr. Wheatley will be able to include it in his supplementary volume of the 'Diary.' Here I propose to give an abstract of the document with some interesting quotations.

The will (Prerogative Court of Canterbury, 97 Degg) is dated August 2nd, 1701, when Pepys is described as in his sixty-ninth year, and of sound mind and memory. "I do with all humility and thankfulness and with a satisfaction inexpressible," says Pepys, resign the soul to its Creator, "in sure reliance.....for a happy resurrection with the just to an everlasting state of rest and bliss in the world to come." As to such worldly goods as he possessed after twenty-four years' "public and painful service

faithfully performed to the Crown," he devised all lands, &c., in Brampton, Hunts, and all other real property, to his nephew Samuel Jackson, of Brampton, eldest son of his late sister Paulina Jackson, for life, and then to his sons successively. In default of such issue the property was to go to his nephew John Jackson, of Westminster, youngest son of Paulina, and to his sons successively; and in default of such sons to his cousin Charles Pepys, second son of his late uncle Thomas Pepys. An annuity of 15*l.* to his old servant Jane Penny was to be paid during her life; and 500*l.* legacy was left to the executor.

There was due to Pepys from the Crown 28,007*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* on a balance of two accounts, first, as Clerk of the Acts of the Navy and Secretary of the Admiralty, and second, as Treasurer for Tangier to Charles II. and James II. This money, when paid, was to be laid out in land for the benefit of his heirs. The residue of his estate was also to be invested in land and held in trust for his heirs. Pepys urged his nephews "to join with me in not repining at any disappointment they may by the late public providences of Almighty God meet with in what they might otherwise have reasonably hoped for from me at my death, but to receive with thankfulness from God's hands whatever it shall prove, remembering it to be more than what either myself or they were born to, and therefore endeavouring on their part by all humble and honest industry to improve the same."

The sole executor was "my most approved and most dear friend William Hewer," of Clapham. Pepys speaks of Hewer's "more than filial affection and tenderness expressed towards me through all the occurrences of my life for forty years past."

On the 12th of May, 1703, Pepys made a codicil to his will, owing to his nephew Samuel Jackson having disposed of himself in marriage "against my positive advice and injunction, and to his own irreparable prejudice and dishonour." This nephew was now to have only an annuity of 40*l.* a year. At the same time Pepys left 200*l.* a year to "the most excellent lady" Mrs. Mary Skynner, in memory of "her steady friendship and assistances during the whole course of my life," for thirty-three years. The use of his library for life was left to John Jackson, who was to see to its completion according to a scheme in his hands; the library was to be kept entire, and bestowed for the benefit of posterity. The arrangements for its disposal have been already published.

On the following day (May 13th, 1703) Pepys executed a second codicil, bequeathing 9,000*l.* 2*s.* 1*d.* of what was owing to him. Mrs. Skynner was to have 5,000*l.*; Hewer, 2,000*l.*; and the children of Charles Pepys, now deceased, 1,000*l.* There are also directions as to the residue of the debt, which, however, was never paid. Pepys died a fortnight later, and the will was proved on the 25th of June.

G. A. AITKEN.

THOMAS STAPLETON'S COPY OF THE WORKS OF SIR THOMAS MORE.

The loving care with which Thomas Stapleton wrote his biography of Sir Thomas More has been unanimously acknowledged. The last historian of Henry's Chancellor, Father Bridgett, does not hesitate to declare that "by far the best life of More is that of Thomas Stapleton, published at Douai in 1588." It is in Latin, and was part of the series entitled "Tres Thomæ," written by the English theologian. In his preface Stapleton gives an account of his sources of information. Many autograph letters were lent to him by More's widow, "propria ejus manu conscriptæ, quæ mihi omnia defuncti viduas adhuc nobiscum superstes communicavit." He conversed with other exiles who had known More (e.g., the witty dramatist and jest-maker John Heywood), "qui.....hoc Belgio alisque orbis partibus pro fide nobiscum exularunt." He leaves the impression that he was indeed

a careful biographer, and took much trouble in order to present a fair account of the late "martyr."

That impression will be entirely borne out by an inspection of the copy of Sir Thomas More's works which Stapleton used while preparing his biography. This copy, I recently ascertained, after having belonged to the English Jesuits' College at Liège, became at an early date the property of the Royal, now the National Library in Paris, where it is preserved at this day. The volume, which has an old binding (not, however, the original one, as many manuscript notes on the margin have been clipped by the binder), contains the first edition of "The Workes of Sir Thomas More, Knyght.....printed at London at the costes and charges of Iohn Cawod, Iohn VValy and Richarde Tottell, Anno 1557." The title-page bears the MS. inscription, "Thome Stapletoni liber."

The book bears innumerable proofs of having been read pen in hand by its former owners; passage after passage is underlined; the contents of paragraphs are often summarized or commented on in the margin. Not all the notes, it is true, are due to Stapleton, but many are certainly in his handwriting. They show the care and attention with which he read the "Workes" from a biographical point of view; he marks especially facts, "traits de caractère," and evidences of the wit and temper of his hero. The letters printed at the end of the volume attracted, naturally enough, much attention from the biographer, and their margins swarm with laudatory epithets and exclamations: "charitas—a goode minde—Humylte—Integritas et Innocentia—Pietas," &c., the first note being opposite a passage where More says to Margaret Roper: "And I thanke our Lorde I knowe no person living that I woulde had one philippe for my sake."

Long before the days of Father Bridgett, the "wisdom and wit" of Thomas More were the subject of studies. This same copy of the "Workes" contains, on a fly-leaf at the end of the volume, a manuscript table of "Mery tales to bee found in Sr Thomas Moore, as alsoe other notes." It is not in the handwriting of Stapleton and seems to be of a somewhat more recent date; additions were made to it by successive owners. The list refers the reader to "Two mery tales," to "An argument for the worshipping of Images," to the story of "Grime the mustard-maker's prayer," and to a number of "mery disputations," "mery saings," and "proper stories." Some of them have found place in Father Bridgett's book; some have not; among the former figures, e.g., the story of Grim, who, unwilling to pray for all, used to offer prayers only for those nearest his heart—Grim, the "musterde maker in Cambridge, y^e was wont to pray for hymselfe and his wife and hys childe, and grace to make good musterde and no more" (in the "Debellacyon of Salem and Bizance").

Reference is also made in the list to a rather lengthy story which is one of the most curious in the Chancellor's works. It is a story of the "Wolf and Fox";* it proves once more the wide and lasting popularity of Reynard in England, and shows that Sir Thomas was well acquainted not only with Roman heroes, but with this mediæval one also. It ends, in a fashion quite characteristic of More, by a comparison of the misdeeds of the wolf with those of the good woman, who, coming home after confession, said to her husband:—

"Be merye manne, for thys day I thanke God was I wel shruen. And I purpose now therefore to leaue of al myne old shreudnes, and begyn enen a fresh!.....In dede it semed she spake it half in sporte, for that she sayd she wold cast a way al her old shreudnes, therein I trow she sported. But in

* The author of the original list had referred to that tale only by the word "Item," that is, "a propre tale"; a later owner, interested by that particular story, added: "The Wolf and Fox."

that she said she wold begyn it al a fresh her housband founde that good earnest."

This was written in the Tower to while away the time, not many months before execution.

Though the list is not in the handwriting of Stapleton, yet he also had read the "Workes" with care from the same particular point of view, noting in the margin or underlining many passages which contained examples of the wit and wisdom of More. He dedicated, in fact, two chapters in his biography of Sir Thomas to that subject, that is chap. xii., "Apothegma sapienter et pie dicta Thomæ Mori," and chap. xiii., "Acute vel facete dicta vel responsa." Many of the sayings and stories thus quoted will be considered good stories even at the present day; a few are curious for an exactly opposite reason, as showing once more how, in the course of time, the standard of wit has altered. Some of the witticisms quoted admiringly by Stapleton for their sharpness and brilliancy will seem now remarkably heavy and laborious. "Hereticorum," says, for example, Stapleton, "dissentientes sententias nihil aliud esse quam improborum omnium conspirationem quandam qua toti orbi illudatur, hac festiva comparatione expressit." And here he quotes in Latin the following passage from the "Workes":—

"As if a man walking in a wilderness that fain would find the right way toward the town that he entended, should meet with a mainy of leud mocking knaves, which when the poore man hadde prayed them to tel him the waye woulde gette them into a roundell turnynge theym backe to backe and then speake all at ones, and eche of them tell him, thys waye, eche of them pointinge forth wyth hys hande the way that his face standeth."

This struck Stapleton as being particularly "festive" and "pretty." The margin of his copy of the "Workes" bears the note in his handwriting: "A pretty similitude of the heretikes dissensions." Such examples, however, are not frequent; with the majority of his judgments and appreciations most readers will agree. J. J. JUSSERAND.

'THE TESTAMENT OF LOVE.'

We ought all to be grateful to Mr. Bradley for his very interesting discovery. There cannot be the least doubt as to the correctness of his statements, notwithstanding the complexities of the original text. I have for some time been aware that the name, as it seems to stand, is not T.S.K.N.V.I., but T.H.S.K.N.V.I.; so that I might have got the true result T.H.I.N.V.S.K. by transposition (and must have had it before me several times), only it never occurred to me that THIN VSK really represented two words. I had always dismissed such a solution as THIN VSK, because there is no such name.

I shall be glad to be allowed to announce that, in consequence of Mr. Bradley's discovery, I have somewhat delayed the appearance of my book entitled "Chaucerian and other Pieces," intended as a supplementary volume to my edition of Chaucer in six volumes. I have cancelled two sheets of the text of 'The Testament of Love' in order to show how the text should be rearranged. The improvement in the text is considerable; and our knowledge of the author's name gives a fresh interest to the piece. I believe, with Mr. Bradley, that Thynne acquired the very copy which Usk sent to Chaucer. I wish he had preserved his MSS. after printing them. WALTER W. SKEAT.

"THE BOOKMAKER'S BAR."

8, Gibson Place, St. Andrews, Feb. 8, 1897.

In a recent review of a novel called 'Miriam Cromwell, Royalist,' the critic (in I forget what journal) objected to the "bookmaker's bar" in the mouth of a Cavalier; thus, "All Puritans are rogues bar Cromwell," or the like. When does the phrase first occur? I find it in a letter of the Chevalier de St. George in 1718: "I never much admired Mr. Steel's proceedings,"

i.e., the peddling intrigues of hangers-on at St. Germain's, "and, *barr* Andrew [his mother], I do not desire to have any more to do with them." The note is in Atterbury's 'Letters,' edited by Glover, p. 24.

Perhaps I may be permitted to add that since the publication of the second edition of 'Pickle the Spy' (reviewed in *Athenæum*, January 30th) I have found his favourite misspelling *how* for *who* used several times by Malcolm Macleod of Brea in a letter of 1752 ('Lyon in Mourning,' iii. pp. 123-125). The spelling, therefore, is not "unique," though in MS. letters read by me I never observed it except from the pen of Pickle and Glengarry. But "puish" for *push* is unlikely to be found outside of these two authors.

ANDREW LANG.

* * Bar occurs in 'The Merchant of Venice,' II. ii. 208, and *barring* in 1481-90. See the 'Oxford English Dictionary.'

Literary Gossip.

MESSRS. DOWNEY & Co. announce the publication of a new and copyright edition of Lever's novels in thirty-six volumes. During his last visit to England, Charles Lever intended to revise his novels (with the aid of his daughter, Mrs. Neville), a task which was interrupted by his death. The text throughout is now being most carefully seen to. The publishers have secured the original plates, six hundred in number, etched by "Phiz" and George Cruikshank for the first edition. In addition, several of the later volumes are illustrated with wood engravings by Mr. Luke Fildes and other artists, all of which will be included in this edition. A few of the volumes were originally published without illustrations, and for these arrangements have been made under which Mr. Gordon Browne will contribute a series of illustrations. The interesting prefaces written by Lever shortly before his death will be included. The printing of the edition has been entrusted to Messrs. T. & A. Constable, of Edinburgh, who have had a new bold, clear type specially cast for the work.

It may not be generally known that the father of Dr. Jameson was one of the early preachers of the heresy regarding Shakespeare. On August 7th, 1852, in *Chambers's Edinburgh Journal*, he published an anonymous article entitled 'Who wrote Shakespeare?' In this he suggested that Shakespeare kept a poet; that when the poet died the plays ceased to appear, but Shakespeare, as manager, retired rich. Farmer in 1789 had shown anti-Shakespearean tendencies, and Horace Walpole's 'Historic Doubts' have been cited in support of these. Hart, in 'The Romance of Yachting,' 1848, broached the subject in a gossipy style, but Jameson first discussed it in a formal essay.

MR. E. F. BENSON has a novel in hand, the scene of which is laid in Greece during the struggle between the Greeks and the Turks seventy years ago. It will appear serially in the *Graphic*, and be illustrated by Mr. G. P. Jacomb Hood.

OLIVE SCHREINER's new book, which Mr. Fisher Unwin will publish next week, will only make one rather small volume. It will, it is said, set forth the writer's views concerning South African politics by a method that is not only daring,

but somewhat startling. It will form part of the "Green Cloth Library," and will be issued simultaneously in the United States by Messrs. Roberts Brothers. A feature of the book will be a photograph reproduction of a photograph of the irregular execution of native spies in the recent war. Mr. Unwin has also in preparation a volume on 'South Africa as It Is,' by the author of 'Mr. Magnus.'

MR. G. W. STEEVENS, whose book on the United States we reviewed last week, will proceed to Spain very shortly for the *Daily Mail*.

THE Historical Manuscripts Commission having now presented its Fifteenth Report to Parliament, two volumes of appendices will be issued almost immediately, containing the reports of the commissioners upon the manuscript collections of Mr. J. Eliot Hodgkin, F.S.A., of Richmond, and Mr. Charles Haliday, of Dublin. One peculiarity about the collection of Mr. Hodgkin is that, unlike most private collections, it has been brought together by the owner himself, and is therefore unusually select. It includes papers of Pepys, Ormonde, Danby, and some Royalist and Jacobite specimens, together with a number of interesting papers relating to the Chevalier D'Eon. The report on this collection has been prepared by Mr. J. Cordy Jeaffreson.

THE second collection above referred to really comprises, for the purpose of the present report, a single volume of the original 'Acts of the Privy Council in Ireland,' which, after having been completely lost for 200 years, was discovered and purchased by the late Mr. Charles Haliday, and presented by him to the Royal Irish Academy. The period covered by this volume of Acts is that for the years 1556 to 1571. It also contains some curious remains of Sir William Usher. It is edited for the Commission by Sir J. T. Gilbert.

THE Honourable Society of Cymmrodorion will shortly publish a new edition of Nennius's 'Historia Britonum,' based on a British Museum manuscript which is believed to be the oldest extant complete copy of the work. The text will be annotated by Mr. Alfred Nutt, who will also write an introduction, while an English translation will be contributed by Mr. Henry Owen.

THE exhaustive Calendar of the Laing Charters left to Edinburgh University, and noticed in the *Athenæum* some months ago, has now been sent to press. The collection numbers about 3,300, mainly Scottish, and will be published in abridged translations with full indexes of personal and place names. In revising the manuscript for the press large and important additions have been made, and the volume will now be one of about 800 pages super-royal 8vo. The price to subscribers after the 1st of March will be considerably raised, and the edition will be a limited one.

THE attempt to acclimatize the *feuilleton* to English daily newspapers does not seem to make much headway. The *Daily Chronicle*, when it inaugurated its new literary departure a few years ago, made, we think, the first serious attempt in this direction; it was followed by the *Star*, with a serial by Mr. Zangwill. The fact that these two papers did not continue the experiment may be taken as a proof of its failure. Quite lately

there has been a revived effort—the *Evening News* reprinting Angus B. Reach's 'Clement Lorimer' in instalments, while the *Sun* is now running a serial by Helen Mathers as its *feuilleton*. For some months past the *Daily Mail* has been publishing short serial stories. What is a necessity in a French paper is distinctly a luxury on this side of the water; but we apprehend that the real difficulty in England is more a matter of pounds, shillings, and pence. The English author, with his shilling per word expectations, would scorn the modest payments which the average French novelist receives for his *feuilletons*.

THE deaths are announced of the Rev. Dr. Walter Gregor, Secretary to the Scottish Text Society, and of the Rev. F. Jacox. Mr. Gregor, who was for several years parish minister of Pitsligo, in Aberdeenshire, published a monograph on the dialect of Banffshire, and was engaged at the time of his decease on a work on the folk-lore of Galloway. Mr. Jacox, who had long retired from parochial work, was the author of 'Secular Annotations on Scripture Texts,' 'Aspects of Authorship,' 'At Nightfall and Midnight,' and 'Shakespeare's Diversions,' and was noted for his liberal gifts to the Printers' Pension Corporation and other charities.

'MR. BLAKE OF NEWMARKET,' the racing novel which has been appearing in the pages of the *Daily Mail*, is to be issued early next month by Mr. Heinemann. The author, Mr. E. H. Cooper, is already at work on a new story, the scene of which is laid almost entirely in Paris.

FIRTH COLLEGE, Sheffield, is to be incorporated by royal charter this year, and it is proposed to commemorate the visit of the Queen in May and the "Diamond Jubilee" of Her Majesty by increasing the endowment of the College and affiliating it with the Victoria University.

MR. MARTIN MACDERMOTT has prepared for publication a new edition of Moore's 'Memoirs of Lord Edward Fitzgerald.' Mr. MacDermott has added to the memoirs many particulars concerning Lord Edward's career which were not available when the work was originally published.

THE Selden Society is going to issue Vol. X. of its publications, 'Select Cases in Chancery, A.D. 1364-1471,' edited by Mr. W. Paley Baildon, who writes an introduction on the growth, early history, and procedure of the Court of Chancery. This volume represents the publication for the year 1896. Volume XI., for 1897, a second volume of 'Select Pleas in the Court of Admiralty,' edited by Mr. R. G. Marsden, is expected to follow shortly.

MAXWELL GRAY writes:—

"When Christina Rossetti died, more than two years ago, there was a chorus of appreciation of her work from the press. Not only great, but the greatest woman poet of the age, she was called. It may not be generally known that a memorial has long been planned, in the shape of a reredos in Christchurch, Woburn Square, the church she regularly attended. Sir Edward Burne-Jones has kindly consented to design a series of paintings for this when the necessary funds for its erection in the church are found, viz. 150*l*. Of this I believe only about 70*l*. or 80*l*. has been subscribed. In the printed list I have before me I find

only eight names known in literature, including that of Mr. Swinburne. Of the thousands who delight in Christina Rossetti's poems, both in England and America, there must at least be hundreds who would be glad to contribute some small sum to this modest and beautiful memorial of one of the greatest poets and writers of the age; while her brothers and sisters in letters, poor though the majority must be, should feel it a stigma upon them that the work is still waiting for want of so pitiful a sum. I therefore beg of your courtesy space for this letter calling attention to the proposed memorial. It has the sanction of Mr. Rossetti, whose subscription heads the list. Donations may be sent to the 'Rossetti Memorial Account' in the Bank of England, or to Mr. W. M. Rossetti, 3, St. Edmund's Terrace, N.W.; Mr. R. W. Dibdin, 17, Russell Square, W.C.; Mr. G. A. A. Nelson, 11, Colville Houses, W.; or the Rev. J. J. Glendinning Nash, 92, Gower Street, W.C."

In Archdeacon Perry has passed away a clergyman of an old-fashioned type, moderate, well read, shrewd, and sensible, if somewhat limited in his outlook. His main labours were devoted to the annals of the Anglican Church. Between 1861 and 1864 he published his 'History of the Church of England from the Death of Elizabeth to the Present Time.' Fourteen years later he brought out an abridgment of this work, stopping with the suppression of Convocation in the reign of George I. He also published in the same year a 'Manual of the History of the Christian Church during the First Ten Centuries' in Mr. Murray's series. Besides doing some editing for the Early English Text Society, he published a biography of St. Hugh of Avalon in 1879. In the present state of the diocese of Lincoln the loss of so learned an ecclesiastic is almost irreparable.

An English translation and revision of Prof. Sophus Bugge's work on 'The Home of the Eddic Poems, with Especial Reference to the Helgi Lays,' is now being prepared, under the personal supervision of the author, by Dr. William Henry Schofield, Travelling Fellow of Harvard University, for the time being resident in Christiania. This translation, which will be the only one issued in any foreign tongue, will be published in the course of a few months by Mr. David Nutt.

MR. PELLATT writes to us to complain that in noticing his tale 'The Witch-Finder' we have called a document he has introduced an "imaginary document." He says his document is derived from 'The Parish History of Swyncombe.' We have not the history before us; but our point was not that the terms of the document were such as could not have been used at any period of English, but that at the date to which in the story it is made to refer—viz., about the later years of Elizabeth—it would have been somewhat difficult to find "a close house of nuns" in England. Mr. Pellatt thinks that because he took this period for his special subject, and got a First Class, he cannot have made mistakes in his story. Unluckily, we lighted on a good many more historical inaccuracies than those we noted. As for these, can he quote a case of an Englishman bearing two Christian names, and one of them a family name, in the first half of the seventeenth century?

The first noteworthy book sale at Messrs. Sotheby, Wilkinson & Hodge's will occupy

five days, beginning with the 22nd inst. One of the anonymous properties comprises an unusually long series of the first editions of American authors. Other properties include a copy of Thackeray's 'Second Funeral of Napoleon,' 1841, in the original illustrated wrapper; a copy of Burns's 'Poems,' Kilmarnock, 1786, in red morocco; a fine copy of 'Bartolomeo de Li Sonnetti,' printed at Venice about 1480 (with forty-nine woodcut maps), and described by Dibdin as one of the rarest volumes of early Italian poetry; a broadside with a poem of twelve stanzas by Hayley, and two coloured engravings by W. Blake, the subject being 'Little Tom the Sailor'; some interesting and uncommon first editions of Bunyan and Dryden; an exceedingly interesting Stevensonian item in the shape of the *Australian Star* of May 24th, 1890, containing the first issue of the novelist's celebrated defence of Father Damien; a copy of the excessively rare Froissart printed at Paris for A. Verard, circa 1495; and the first five editions of Walton's 'Angler,' uniformly bound in dark green morocco extra; the first and the most valuable edition of this set has unfortunately been much "shaved" by some ignorant binder.

THE decease is announced of the Rev. S. H. Reynolds, for many years rector of East Ham, and long an active contributor to the *Times*. He had previously been a Fellow and Tutor of Brasenose, and had a reputation at Oxford as a conversationalist. His talk was somewhat bitter and cynical, but showed him to be a man of more than average powers. He edited for Rivington's "Catena Classicorum" the first twelve books of the *Iliad*, and he defended the perfunctory character of his notes by saying they were as good as the publisher deserved to get at the price he paid for them. Mr. Reynolds was seen to much greater advantage in his learned commentaries on Bacon's 'Essays' and Selden's 'Table Talk.' The latter he published after his retirement from East Ham. In them his singular knowledge of out-of-the-way literature was conspicuously evident.

In commemoration of the birthday of the late J. R. Lowell, a meeting will be held in Berlin of American students on the evening of next Friday. Prof. J. T. Hatfield will deliver an "oration."

THE Vienna Academy of Sciences has commissioned Prof. Hitzig, of the University of Zurich, to compile a special 'Darstellung des attischen Civilprozesses.' By his earlier work, 'Das altgriechische Pfandrecht,' Dr. Hitzig proved himself equally expert in the studies needed for this field of research.

THE Parliamentary Papers of the week include the Report of a Departmental Committee upon the Laws relating to Dogs (2d.), and a Return of the Charities in another West Riding Parish (3d.).

SCIENCE

Pioneer Work in the Alps of New Zealand. By Arthur P. Harper, B.A. (Fisher Unwin.)

THERE are certain regions of the earth's surface, not always the most remote, which

preserve in a peculiar degree the charm and mystery of the Beyond. Such were once the valleys of California and the cañons of Colorado; such are still the highlands east of the Jordan, the mountains of Morocco, and the western slope of the New Zealand Alps. In the country last named the ingenious author of 'Erewhon' found not so many years ago a fitting site for his Utopia. The mountain climbers Mr. Green and Mr. Mannering, even the geologist Von Haast, to whom are due some of our best descriptions of the New Zealand ranges, devoted most, if not all, of their attention to the eastern glaciers. Mr. Fitzgerald, it is true, varied his recent story of his scrambles by an account of a double crossing of the Tasman group; but he afforded a glimpse and no more of what lies between its snowfields and the western sea. The goldiggers who push along the seabaches bring back no trustworthy information as to the upland glens. Their recesses have never been inhabited by the native tribes, and the only record of glacier exploration by Maoris is a legend that some twenty years ago a party of them punted a "dug-out" canoe into the ice cave of the Franz Josef Glacier in the belief that through its "dusky doors" they might penetrate beyond the silver heights to the land of gold which supplied the particles sought out by the white men. "The younger generation of goldiggers," Mr. Harper tells us, "have a strong dislike—I may say fear—of the hard work and life entailed by journeys into the Ranges." Such is the benighted condition of the population of "Gillespie's Beach," the centre of Southern Westland, that they mistook iceaxes for eel-spears.

During the years 1893-5 the New Zealand Government, which had already mapped the great glaciers of Mount Cook, undertook the thorough exploration of the western glens and ridges, and the results of the surveyors' labours are duly recorded in its Survey Reports. But these records are necessarily disconnected in form, and accessible in this country only to diligent students in public libraries. It is not the least of the results of Mr. Fitzgerald's journey that it has helped to instigate one of the surveyors employed, Mr. A. P. Harper, to do justice to his own and his comrades' share in New Zealand exploration by putting together in a book some of their adventures and experiences. Mr. Harper's volume fills a notable gap in the literature of the colony.

In order to realize the field and extent of the journeys here recorded, it may be well to establish definitely certain preliminary points as to the New Zealand Alps. Colonists and climbers have used the term Southern Alps with very various meanings. There seem to be only two which have much claim to general acceptance, and it would appear most natural and convenient to include under the title all the glacier-clad ranges south of the conspicuous gap of Harper's Pass—that is, not only the central crest or unbroken line of snow and ice, one hundred miles long, from near Haast's Pass to Whitcombe's Pass, but also its two wings, dominated by Mount Arrowsmith and Mount Earnslaw, where the peaks are clustered in companies rather than drawn up in columns. By the grassy gaps through

these wings the central crest—sometimes called the "Southern Alps proper"—has long since been turned, but its hundred-mile barrier remained untraversed (no surveyor even had crossed the snows to the sea) until 1892. The glacier pass then opened over the Godley Glacier was not the practicable horse-track from the Hermitage to the west coast which the colony had been long wanting and seeking. Quadrupeds had still to cross by the coach-road to the north, and take the chance of a coast track, the service on which is liable to be interrupted "two times in five" by floods or storms.

To discover this comparatively easy and direct pass was one of the main objects of the surveyors' labour, and the search for it led them into all the glens of Southern Westland. How the pass was found and crossed by Mr. Fitzgerald, just as Mr. Harper had realized the right place in which to look for it, readers may find told in their respective pages. It is a pity that any heat should have arisen out of this chance collision between men who have both, on different lines, done good work. Mr. Harper writes under the impression that too much has been made in this country of the young climber's work as an explorer, and that his indebtedness in the matter of maps to his colonial predecessors has been inadequately recorded. What foundation there may be for this feeling there is no need to inquire here. It is more to the purpose to recommend to the consideration of the rivals some sentences in which Mr. Ruskin, *à propos* of a once famous Alpine controversy, denounced with even more than his customary eloquence those who "find Apotheosis in the accident of a Discovery."

There was the less need for Mr. Harper to force this personal matter into the foreground, since his narrative is in itself an ample vindication of his comrades' and his own work as pioneers. The sojourner whom duty compels to spend successive summers in the mountains has many advantages over the passing traveller or climber. He learns to know nature by living with her, and finds it less difficult to mingle in due proportion description with personal adventure. Mr. Harper apologizes, not without some reason, for the roughness of his style. He makes no pretence to literary graces, and he is not afraid to mix camp jokes and slang with the stock quotations natural to an Oxonian. But these blemishes will hardly discourage the serious reader, who will find his curiosity in great part satisfied. Mr. Harper has made good use of his opportunities. He possesses the intelligence and eyes of a natural observer. Whether it is the geological structure of the ridges, or the characteristics of the glaciers and forests, or the habits of the quaint wingless birds who are the explorer's most intimate camp companions until they serve as his dinner, the author is interested in his subject, and conveys his interest to his readers. And of adventures he has plenty to tell, none the less thrilling for not being above the snow level. For a description—too long to quote—of travel in a virgin valley, readers should turn to the account of the exploration of the Cook river (chap. ix.). The concluding sentence is significant: "We were four days traversing four miles and a half in the narrowest

part of the valley, climbing, crawling, sliding, scrambling, and track-cutting most of the time."

The contrast between the two slopes of the New Zealand Alps is described as singularly complete. On the east glaciers rivalling the largest in the Alps roll their slow level floods for miles along troughs parallel with the chain and under crags of prodigious height and steepness, that are constantly breaking away into fragments, which the ice carries with it to deposit on the broad, treeless expanse of the Mackenzie Plains. To the west the overflow of brimming bowls of *névé* pours down in continuous icefalls or tumbles over precipices until it almost meets the waves of the Pacific. The Fox and Franz Josef glaciers terminate only 700 to 900 feet above the sea level. The torrents from the lesser ice streams flow through valleys which are an alternation of flats and gorges, and are everywhere clad in dense scrub and forest. The explorer finds in the tangled vegetation his greatest difficulty; to the tourists who will succeed him the varied foliage, the tree-ferns, the rich undergrowth, which provide a semi-tropical foreground for the Arctic heights of the central range, will prove one of the great attractions of this Switzerland of the South.

Now that a practicable pass has been found over the Mount Cook range the central district is likely to be speedily developed. The distances are short; the hardships and difficulties of the first explorers have been mainly due to incomplete outfit, insufficient transport, and the absence of paths and blazed tracks. The Government has sent its surveyors into the wilderness to fare as best they could without provisions or porters. The Messrs. Cook will look after their successors better. A comparatively modest sum would throw open the chief glaciers to the visitors for whom nature has provided not only attractions, but luxuries. Close to the Franz Josef Glacier are hot springs:—

"It was a new and pleasing sensation to lie in a hot spring under the shade of tree-ferns and enjoy the glorious view of a glacier within a mile and a half, plunging its way down between steep hills clothed in luxuriant forest and backed by high snow and iceclad peaks. If the bath proves uncomfortably hot it is easy to let in a little icewater from the river a yard or two away, or even catch a piece of floating ice and place it in the pond."

Mr. Harper has something to urge against the claim of Aorangi to be considered as the native name of Mount Cook. What he says amounts, we think, to no more than this, that the Maoris gave the name to a range rather than to any particular peak. It is curious how slow, with the example of the Monts Maudits and Monte Rosa before their eyes, surveyors are to admit that this is the rule with primitive people in all parts of the world. It is a late refinement of civilization to ascertain the culminating summit and distinguish it from its neighbours. The glaciers, Mr. Harper says, are not receding, as a whole, "to any appreciable extent." In some of the larger ones, however, some retreat has been observed in the last twenty years. "There is greater activity," he adds,

"in the Southern Alps than in the European, and therefore the effects of ice and snow are

more marked and more easily recorded. The avalanches are more frequent—falling night and day—than in Europe; the glaciers descend to a lower level, and the country is more shattered." Climbers who in other ranges have had their ears filled with the incessant roar of ice avalanches, the hissing of snow-slides, and the ominous hum of the stones that pass, like bullets, unseen, can appreciate the sense of security there is in a return to the silence of the Alps.

We must condole with Mr. Harper on the treatment of his illustrations. The subjects are in many cases fascinating—the execution is throughout slovenly. The process employed is bad, and its results are uniformly disagreeable, inartistic, and blurred in detail. The map, on the contrary, is excellent, and shows how much work on the west side of the chain has been carried out, in the teeth of great obstacles and needless hardships, in a comparatively short space of time, by the energy and devotion of two men, Mr. Douglas and the author. Of his comrade Mr. Harper writes as "a great explorer," and he adds:—

"Had I time to look over his diaries and reports I could, with help, produce a very thorough and valuable record of this southern country; but I am not a man of leisure, and the diaries are in the safe of a Government department."

The New Zealand Government might do well to instruct Mr. Harper to carry out this suggestion. Such a step would be entirely in accord with the liberal attitude towards any steps for the encouragement of visitors to the Southern Alps taken up by the colonial authorities.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL.—Feb. 4.—The President in the chair.—The President stated that a paper had been received from Dr. A. Willey, Balfour Student, to the effect that he had discovered the ova of Nautilus.—The following papers were read: 'On the Condition in which Fats are absorbed from the Intestine,' by Messrs. B. Moore and D. P. Rockwood; 'The Gaseous Constituents of certain Mineral Substances and Natural Waters,' by Prof. W. Ramsay and Mr. M. W. Travers; 'Some Experiments on Helium,' by Mr. M. Travers; 'On the Gases enclosed in Crystalline Rocks and Minerals,' by Prof. Tilden; and 'On Lunar Periodicities in Earthquake Frequency,' by Prof. Knott.

SOCIETY OF ANTIQUARIES.—Feb. 4.—Sir H. H. Howorth, M.P., V.P., in the chair.—Mr. James Harrison exhibited and presented a photograph of a stone shaft surmounted by a small bowl, evidently a mediæval holy-water stock, lately rescued by him from the churchyard and placed in the vestry of St. Andrew's Church, Charnmouth.—Canon Church exhibited a remarkable thirteenth century wooden pix canopy or cover from Wells Cathedral Church, upon which Mr. W. H. St. John Hope read some descriptive remarks. The canopy is in form of a cylindrical lantern of open tracery work, and is about four feet in height. Though much "restored," it retains considerable traces of its original decoration, the body having been painted red with gold flowers, and the angle shafts blue. The top is surmounted by a bold cresting of leafwork, once painted white and red, and retains the curiously arranged ironwork by which the whole was suspended, with a swivel hook from which the pix depended.—Mr. C. Lynam exhibited a cast of, and communicated a note on, a fragment of a pre-Norman cross-shaft lately discovered at Leek, Staffordshire.—Prof. T. M. K. Hughes read a paper on the derivation of the four characteristic implements of the South Pacific, namely, the battle-axe, the throwing-stick, the boomerang, and the patoo-patoo, from the bones of Cetacea. He exhibited a selection of bone objects illustrating the view that among all races and at all times the bones of animals were employed as instruments of every-day use—sometimes just as they were picked up, sometimes modified by cutting or grinding. Many of the forms suggested by the bone would be produced in other material when the

supply pointed when details which jaw of common or bête made of wood. was all the cur transverse rib, and side ju the he part of for ins vertebra form a ing-stic had a f so as t plane. it, who but it vane propul the rot region, back to Now the nearly body, a itself to twist. and use show t might

ARCH Baylis, that the this ye the beg Genera coine : sular, o (Castle) finished ivory, s others, George in a pi attache for, be paper, colours Came paragra p. 164 1795, w appear surgeon infam surgeon whale fi was tak to ingr of obta fessed accused Great s scious, while in An info by som fined in of Sept by the after c and al "We s that C only re tency of Mr. G. of his Wroxet part of that th treated, had be of the He the of the year t city we centre the ba the dep

supply of bone was not equal to the demand. He pointed out that it was the habit of uncivilized man when copying any object to reproduce unimportant details. He then drew attention to the patoo-patoo which he exhibited, and which was made of the jaw of a cetacean, whereas this implement was commonly made of wood or stone. The battle-axe or *bâton de commandement* of Fiji had been seen made of a cetacean rib, but was commonly made of wood. In the wooden specimens, however, there was always a prominence on the upper margin of the curved head which exactly corresponded to the transverse process in the proximal end of a cetacean rib, and often a mark like an eye was placed on the side just where the lateral prominence occurs in the head of the rib. In the ribs near the middle part of the animal—in the case of the ca'ing whale, for instance—the process which passed below the vertebral column was much elongated, and the whole form almost exactly resembled that of the "throwing-stick." This instrument, when made of wood, had a flattened head, as in the rib, and was thrown so as to cut more easily through the air in one plane. The boomerang proper was flattened along its whole length with a concavo-convex section; but it had also a twist, giving it the form of two vanes of a windmill; so that, when the force of propulsion given it by the thrower was dying out, the rotation of the instrument lifted it into a higher region, from which it could glide along an air-slope back to the thrower or in some other direction. Now the front rib of the Cetacea lies in a plane nearly at right angles to the direction of the animal's body, and, owing to the tendency to accommodate itself to the flat barrel of the animal, has a slight twist. The form, in fact, approaches that of a boomerang, and when imitated in lighter material, and used as a throwing-stick, some specimens would show the characteristic flight, and thus accident might suggest the boomerang.

ARCHÆOLOGICAL INSTITUTE.—Feb. 3.—Judge Baylis, V.P., in the chair.—The Chairman announced that the Annual Meeting of the Institute will be held this year at Dorchester, Dorset, at the end of July or the beginning of August, under the presidency of General Pitt-Rivers.—Canon Raven exhibited three coins: two of the Constantine period, and one consular, of C. Memmius, from Gariannonum (Burgh Castle).—Mr. R. G. Rice exhibited a small unfinished miniature portrait of a man, painted on ivory, supposed to be that of Crossfield, who, with others, was accused of a conspiracy to assassinate George III. The portrait was formerly wrapped in a piece of old paper, to which it is securely attached, and it was apparently so from the first, for, besides the following endorsement on the paper, there are marks indicating a trial of the colours: "Committed to the Tower 18 Sept, 1795. Came to town, 11 D^y. 2 at Bodmin." From a paragraph under "British and Foreign History," on p. 164 of the 'New Annual Register' for the year 1796, which was quoted *in extenso* by Mr. Rice, it appeared that "a man of the name of Crossfield, a surgeon, had been implicated on the evidence of the infamous informer Upton.....he engaged himself as surgeon on board the Pomona, bound to the southern whale fishery. In the course of her voyage, the Pomona was taken and carried into Brest, where (Pomona) was ingratiate himself with the French, in the hope of obtaining favourable treatment) he openly professed himself to be one of those who had been accused of a conspiracy to assassinate the King of Great Britain.....On his return to England, concessions, probably, of the imprudence of his language while in France, he assumed the name of Wilson. An information, however, being lodged against him by some of the sailors with whom he had been confined in France, he was apprehended in the month of September, and with much solemnity committed by the Privy Council to the Tower." The writer, after characterizing the matter as "this frivolous and almost ridiculous affair," concludes by saying, "We shall so far venture to anticipate, as to add that Crossfield and the rest were, after a trial only remarkable for the absurdity and inconsistency of the evidence for the Crown, acquitted."—Mr. G. E. Fox read the second and concluding part of his paper on Uriconium, the Roman city at Wroxeter, near Shrewsbury. Referring to the first part of the paper, read last November, he mentioned that the general aspect of the site had then been treated of, that the line of the city walls had been traced, and the various discoveries described which had been made within the walls from the beginning of the last century to the middle of the present one. He then proceeded to explain in detail the remains of the buildings found in the excavations made from the year 1859 to 1861, and again in 1867, during which years the principal public buildings of the Roman city were uncovered. These formed a group in the centre of the site, and comprised the basilica and the baths, with various adjuncts. Mr. Fox urged the desirability of further excavations on the site,

which might be expected to yield even better results for archaeology than those achieved in the excavations at Silchester, though these had been considerable.—Plans and photographs of the remains and drawings of architectural details from Wroxeter were exhibited in illustration of the paper, together with examples of *tesserae* from the floor of the basilica to show the materials used in the mosaics of Uriconium.

ZOOLOGICAL.—Feb. 2.—Prof. G. B. Howes in the chair.—The Secretary read a report on the additions made to the menagerie during January, and exhibited a collection of bird-skins that had been formed by Mr. W. A. Churchill during various shooting excursions along the shores within twenty miles of the island of Mozambique. There were no novelties in the collection, but it was interesting as coming from a locality which, zoologically, had not been well explored.—Mr. R. E. Holding, on behalf of Sir D. Brooke, exhibited a head and two pair of shed horns of a fallow deer. The latter showed curious deformities in consequence of disease of the frontal bone.—Mr. G. E. H. Barrett-Hamilton gave a short general account of his expedition to the Fur-Seal Islands of the North Pacific during the summer of 1896, in company with Prof. D'Arcy Thompson. This journey had been undertaken on behalf of the Foreign and Colonial Offices, with a view to the investigation of the natural history of the Northern fur-seal (*Otaria ursina*), with special reference to certain disputed points which had a distinct bearing on the industry connected with the skins of the animal. A detailed report of Mr. Barrett-Hamilton's investigations would be issued as a Parliamentary Blue-book.—Mr. G. A. Boulenger read a paper on 'A Catalogue of the Reptiles and Batrachians of Celebes, with Special Reference to the Collections made by Drs. P. and F. Sarasin in 1893-1896.' This memoir gave a complete list (with descriptions) of all the reptiles and batrachians, with the exception of the marine species, known to occur in the Celebes. The number of species of reptiles enumerated was 83, and of batrachians 21.—Mr. M. Jacoby described 43 species of phytophagous Coleoptera, 37 of which were new, based on specimens contained in collections sent home to him from Natal and Mashonaland by Mr. G. Marshall, and from Madagascar by M. Alluand, of Paris.

ENTOMOLOGICAL.—Feb. 3.—Mr. R. Trimen, President, in the chair.—Mr. F. Bates, Mr. D. D.A. Wright, and Mrs. E. Brightwen were elected Fellows.—Mr. Champion exhibited an extensive series of Coleoptera collected by Mr. R. W. Lloyd and himself in the Austrian Tyrol, containing about 450 species, and including 35 of Longicornia and about 20 of Otiorhynchus. He also exhibited about 85 species of Coleoptera from Cintra, Portugal, collected by Col. Xerbyus, the most interesting of these being *Carabus lusitanicus*, F.; also two specimens of the rare *Zugophora flavicollis*, Marsh., from Colchester.—Mr. Tutt showed for Mr. W. H. B. Fletcher typical *Zygena ochsenheimeri*, Zell., from Piedmont, and hybrids between a female of that species and *Z. filipendula*. The progeny was fertile *inter se*, the males closely approaching *Z. ochsenheimeri*, the females *Z. filipendula* in character. For Mr. J. B. Hodgkinson he exhibited a number of obscure British Microlepidoptera, some of which had been described as new species.—The determinations were criticized by Lord Walsingham, Mr. Bower, and Mr. Barrett, and the first-named speaker strongly deprecated the practice of positively recognizing or describing such obscure species from single or worn specimens, particularly when British.—Mr. Barrett showed specimens of the true *Platylitia tesseraedactyla*, L. (= *P. fischeri*, Zell.), new to the United Kingdom, and taken in Co. Galway.—Mr. McLachlan exhibited cooked locusts (*Schistocerca gregaria*) sold in the market at Biskra, Algeria. They were cooked whole, but the abdomen only was eaten.—The President, Mr. Barrett, and Mr. Blandford made some remarks on the subject.—A paper was communicated by Dr. A. G. Butler 'On Seasonal Dimorphism in African Butterflies,' which led to a long discussion, chiefly on the so-called "dry-season" and "wet-season" forms.—Mr. Merrifield stated that he had been unable to modify experimentally the colour and markings of Lepidoptera by variations in humidity.—Mr. Tutt believed that Mr. Doherty had obtained "wet-season forms" of Oriental species by keeping the pupæ in a moist atmosphere.

INSTITUTION OF CIVIL ENGINEERS.—Feb. 9.—Mr. J. W. Barry, President, in the chair.—The paper read was 'On Cold Storage at the London and India Dock,' by Mr. H. F. Donaldson.

SOCIETY OF ARTS.—Feb. 4.—Prof. Ewing delivered the second lecture of his course of Howard Lectures 'On the Mechanical Production of Cold.'

Feb. 8.—Mr. J. S. Neville in the chair.—Mr. W. Burton delivered the fourth and concluding lecture 'On Material and Design in Pottery,' dealing more especially with porcelain, and showing how it formed a sort of connecting link between stoneware and glass, and required special treatment, both as regards design of form and colouring, owing to the constituents of the materials employed. A number of examples from the South Kensington Museum were exhibited.

Feb. 9.—Mr. J. Pennell in the chair.—A paper 'On Lithography as a Mode of Artistic Expression' was read before the Applied Art Section by Mr. G. McCulloch.—A discussion followed, in which Mr. Whistler and others took part.

Feb. 10.—Sir S. C. Bayley in the chair.—A paper 'On the Chemistry of Tea' was read by Mr. D. Crole, and was followed by a discussion.

ARISTOTELIAN.—Jan. 25.—Mr. T. H. Hodgson, V.P., in the chair.—Mr. C. T. Davis was elected a Member.—Mr. A. Boutwood read a paper 'On the Fundamental Nature of the Religious Consciousness.'

Feb. 8.—Prof. J. Sully and Miss Meyer were elected Members.—Mr. H. Sturt read a paper 'On Duty.' Duty implies (1) service. The service of duty is a kind of homage to excellence; in its most developed form a homage to an ideal. We appreciate excellence because (a) we should, without it, perish in the struggle for existence; (b) the soul in all departments of activity naturally works towards perfection. Duty implies (2) effort, because it is the service of an imperfect being.

MEETINGS FOR THE ENSUING WEEK.

- Mon. Victoria Institute, 4½.—'Inherited and Hereditary Characters.'
- London Institution, 5.—'The Fauna of the High Seas,' Prof. S. J. Hickson.
- Heliopic, 5.—'A Stone Tripod at Oxford' and 'The Mantinean Basin,' Prof. P. Gardner.
- Institute of British Architects, 8.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Industrial Uses of Celluloid; Lecture 1,' Mr. C. F. Cross. (Lecture 2.)
- Royal Institution, 3.—'Animal Electricity,' Prof. A. D. Waller.
- Statistical, 5½.—'English Vaccination and Small-pox Statistics, with Special Reference to the Report of the Royal Commission and to Recent Small-pox Epidemics,' Mr. Noel A. Humphreys.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Progress of Canada during the Past Sixty Years of Her Majesty's Reign,' Mr. J. G. Colmer.
- Folklore, 8.—'The Story of Ureid,' Prof. W. P. Ker.
- Civil Engineers, 8.—'Discussion on 'Cold Storage at the London and India Docks.'
- Zoological, 8½.—'Echinodermata, a Halosaurus Fish from the Upper Cretaceous Formation of Westphalia,' Mr. A. S. Woodward; 'Specimen of *Acodontophorus olivaceus* from the Arabian Sea,' Mr. G. A. Boulenger; 'Remarks on the Existing Forms of Gracile,' Mr. W. E. de Winton.
- Wed. United Service Institution, 3.—'The Dongola Expedition of 1896,' Lieut. A. Hilliard-Alderidge.
- Microscopical, 7.—'On a Simple Method of Microphotography,' Mr. G. M. Gillee.
- Meteorological, 7½.—'Report on the Phenological Observations for 1896,' Mr. E. Mawley; 'Results of Observations on Haze and Transparency near Haslemere, Surrey,' Hon. F. A. E. Russell.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'Light Railways,' Mr. E. B. Calthrop.
- Entomological, 8.
- Thurs. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Problems of Arctic Geology,' Dr. J. W. Gregory.
- Royal, 4½.
- Historical, 5.—'Anniversary: Address by the President.'
- London Institution, 6.—'The Arctic Record,' Mr. J. Scott Keltie.
- Naturalistic, 7.
- Linnean, 8.—'Certain Points in the Anatomy and Morphology of the Symphaceæ,' Mr. D. T. G. Vaughan; 'The Adhesive Discs of *Eucalia apicata*,' Mr. T. H. Burrag.
- Chemical, 8.—'The Oxidation of Sulphurous Acid by Potassium Permanganate,' Messrs. T. S. Dymond and F. Hughes; 'Sedamide and some of its Substitution Derivatives,' and 'Rabdamide,' Dr. A. W. Titherley.
- Society of Arts, 8.—'The Mechanical Production of Cold,' Lecture IV, Prof. J. A. Ewing. (Howard Lecture.)
- Antiquaries, 8½.—'Note on Ancient Burial Customs,' Rev. E. B. Savage; 'Medieval Surnames and their Spellings,' Mr. G. Grazebrook.
- Fri. Geological, 3.—'Annual Meeting.'
- United Service Institution, 3.—'The Health of the British Troops in India and other Foreign Stations,' Major-General H. Darnley.
- Royal Institution, 9.—'The Approaching Return of the Great Swarm of November Meteors,' Dr. G. J. Stoney.
- Sat. Royal Institution, 3.—'The Growth of the Mediterranean Route to the East,' Mr. W. F. Lord.

Science Gossip.

The annual meeting of the Society for the Protection of Birds will take place on the afternoon of Tuesday week, at the Westminster Palace Hotel. The chair will be taken by the Earl of Stamford.

The Royal Meteorological Society will hold at the Institution of Civil Engineers, in Great George Street, from March 16th to 19th, in commemoration of the "Diamond Jubilee," an exhibition of meteorological instruments in use in 1837 and 1897, and of diagrams, drawings, and photographs illustrative thereof.

At the meeting of the Royal Astronomical Society held yesterday (February 12th) the Gold Medal, which had been awarded to Prof. Barnard for his discovery of the fifth satellite of Jupiter and other discoveries, was presented to him in person, the address being delivered by the retiring president, Dr. Common. The latter is succeeded by Prof. Sir Robert Ball.

DR. PAUL HARZER, Director of the Gotha Observatory, has been appointed to succeed the late Prof. Krüger in the directorship of that at Kiel. He becomes also Professor of Astronomy in the University.

DR. WILHELM VALENTINER, Director of the Karlsruhe Observatory, has been appointed Professor of Astronomy in the University of Heidelberg, and the observatory is to be transferred to the latter place, where a building is being erected for the purpose.

THE small planets Nos. 412, 413, 420, and 421 have received the names Elisabetha, Edburga, Bertholda, and Zähringia respectively. They were all discovered by Prof. Max Wolf at Heidelberg, the former two on January 7th, 1896, and the latter two on September 3rd, 1896. Two of the discoveries more recent than the last must be excluded from the numbering, as only one photographic position of each is available.

FINE ARTS

EXHIBITION OF WORKS OF FORD MADOX BROWN AT THE GRAFTON GALLERY.

THIS is one of the most important of that now numerous class, the "one-man" exhibition. It comprises nearly two hundred pictures and cartoons, some of them unusually large and crowded with figures. Yet it is far from being complete, and therefore it is not altogether just to Madox Brown. The great cartoon of 'The Body of Harold brought to the Conqueror,' which established Brown's reputation with artists in 1845, is in the South London Gallery and not on these walls, while 'Chaucer at the Court of Edward III.' is at Sydney. Neither of Brown's two masterpieces, 'The Last of England' and 'Christ washes Peter's Feet,' is here. The former is in the public gallery at Birmingham and the latter in the National Gallery. *Work* (No. 54), too, which he mistakenly took to be his best work, is so badly hung that it might as well not have been borrowed from the Corporation Gallery at Manchester. 'Romeo and Juliet' is in America, while the best 'Entombment' is not here. To be sure, smaller copies and several nondescript versions of these absent examples do something towards making the collection adequately representative of a masculine artist and admirable colourist. Of course, as the series of large paintings in the Town Hall at Manchester are not removable from the walls, they are perforce represented, more or less imperfectly, by the copies and versions to which we have referred. There is, on the other hand, it must be acknowledged, a superabundance of inferior works which had better not have been hung. Altogether the visitor will be wise if he does not expect too much from the collection; and yet there is so much that is really fine in it that he will be forced to concede to Brown an extremely high place among modern English painters.

As for nearly forty years the *Athenæum* has been Brown's constant advocate and expositor, it is not necessary for us to say much about the leading paintings in the exhibition. The late Mr. Solomon Hart, R.A., who contributed to this journal in the forties, was among the first to praise with any degree of warmth Brown's *Wickliffe* reading his *Translation of the Bible to John of Gaunt* (42) when it was at the Free Exhibition in 1848. Its architectonic composition and the conventions that mark the design, the absence of passion, the motionless figures and pervading grace, the light tonality and brilliant coloration, make it quite different from anything Brown painted before or after. Yet it was this work that attracted to him the Pre-Raphaelite Brethren. Dante Rossetti, in fact, fell violently in love with it, and based upon it his earliest artistic principles, technical as well as pictorial. That the

painter of 'Wickliffe' should likewise be the author of a piece so intensely dramatic and so thoroughly human and moving as No. 60, which represents the parting of *Romeo and Juliet*, is a marvel not to be ignored because the version before us is decidedly inferior to the absent original. On the other hand, Mr. Bibby's replica in oil of the very original *Elijah and the Widow's Son* (15), the water-colour drawing of which is at South Kensington, is the finest and most animated version that exists of the design, and Leighton was never tired of admiring and praising it. We mention this because many prejudiced supporters of Brown believe that Academicians—the eclectics especially—constantly depreciated him. It may surprise some of them to know that Armitage was a large subscriber to the fund which secured 'Christ washes Peter's Feet' for the National Gallery, while Leighton was equally zealous in securing 'Harold' for South London. Nor was Mr. Watts less active in the matter. *Chaucer at the Court of Edward III.* (16), Mr. Bibby's small version of the enormous picture now at Sydney, is a distinct improvement on a picture which, when it was in Trafalgar Square in 1851, occupied a leading place and a great deal of space in the Middle Room. As the Catalogue does not condescend to such trivialities, we may say that the work contains an excellent portrait of Walter H. Deverell, the P.R.B.'s much-beloved friend, as the page who is flirting with the lady in front; D. G. Rossetti is Chaucer; John Marshall, the famous surgeon, figures as the jester; Mr. W. M. Rossetti sat for the troubadour; and we believe Miss Siddal is the lady on our right who clasps her hands together. Deverell's is much the best of these likenesses.

Cordelia and Lear (20) represents the moment immediately preceding the death of the king. It is a prodigious improvement upon 'Wickliffe,' which it followed at Hyde Park Corner in 1849. Except in 'Christ washes Peter's Feet' and 'The Last of England,' Brown never surpassed this great work; the effect of it is strikingly concentrated, and the pathos is intense. In 'The Private Collections of England,' No. II., September 13th, 1873, we called it "one of the most nearly perfect pictures of the English School." *King René's Honeymoon* (27) is an expressive version of one of Brown's sweetest designs in what he was wont to call "the amorous class," what Millais used to style "cuddling pictures." As the Catalogue affords no explanation of the subject, we may repeat what we said on October 10th, 1885, in 'The Private Collections,' No. LXXXII.:

"The young king and his fair bride sit side by side in a sort of throne set up in a bower while they discuss the plan of the 'Chastlet du Roy René,' a diagram of which lies at their feet. A soft, golden light flushes the roseate air. René holds a pair of compasses in one hand and with a soft smile abandons himself to the charm of the situation, while he leans towards his spouse and receives her caress. Lightly touching his arm with one hand, she puts the other about his neck, drawing his willing face to her, and plants a kiss upon his cheek. Tender passion was never more admirably or ardently delineated than in this beautiful romance. The style, no less than the sentiment, the costumes, lighting, and chiaroscuro (a broad, soft, ruddy, and nearly shadowless tone pervades the scene), is excellently adapted to the passion of the subject."

This delightful comedy illustrates Brown's power of dealing with subjects of the class almost as well as the 'Romeo and Juliet' shows how he could handle similar, but more passionate motives and incidents. These pictures are the true complements to the artist's tragic works, like the 'Cordelia and Lear' and the not less touching 'Last of England,' of which Mr. Rae's reduced version, No. 64, is a good duplicate.

Our readers who compare it with any of the best works here may judge how inadequate *Juan and Haidee* (48)—the picture which is

to represent Brown in the Louvre, as we lately stated—is to figure as a specimen either of Brown's art or the English School. It is not quite his worst picture, but it is among his worst. *Work* (54) we described when reviewing the artist's own exhibition in 1865, and again when it was at Manchester in 1887. Though full of fine painting and showing plenty of power, it is, in our opinion, a great mistake, at once complicated, didactic, and full of crudities of thought. It is woefully confused; in fact, it is rather a lecture in paint than a picture, and it possesses none of the incisiveness of Hogarth nor of Hogarth's homogeneity and simplicity. The gentleman on horseback in the middle of the straggling composition, or rather no-composition, is a good likeness of R. B. Martineau, whose 'Last Day in the Old Home' has lately gone to the National Gallery, but the portraits of Carlyle and Kingsley in the foreground are caricatures. This picture has darkened considerably since we saw it at Manchester. *The Entombment* (55) is an inferior version of one of Brown's happiest designs, which is better represented by No. 132, and still better by the photograph, No. 249, from a really fine cartoon.

Cordelia's Portion (56) we described at length in "The Private Collections," No. LXXXIV. Brown etched the subject in No. 4 of the *Germ*, 1850. We also mentioned Mr. Rae's large landscape, *An English Autumn Afternoon*, in No. XVIII. of the same series. *Wilhelmus Conquistator* (61) is the large version in oil of the cartoon of 1845, and was exhibited along with the cartoon at Westminster. Recently, when chronicling the gift of the cartoon to South London, we described its design, which does not differ materially from that of No. 61. The picture deserves close examination if the observer is to enter into the spirit of so magnificent a work. Brown's superabundant vitality is manifest in it, and his intense sympathy with the furious passions of his battle scene is evidenced by the group of combatants in the foreground, where, locked in a death grapple, lie the bodies of a Norman and a Saxon, one of whom has stabbed the other in the back, while he, in turn, has bitten his adversary's throat like a dog. The composition, though at once difficult and complex, and consisting of a crowd of figures compactly grouped, is a masterpiece of its kind, and, like the expressions of the faces, it is worthy of the highest praise. How fine a draughtsman Brown was at the time he drew the cartoon may be noticed in the *Original Cartoon of the Spirit of Justice* (36), which, with the cartoon now at the South London Gallery, was at Westminster in 1845. The design of No. 36 is a little stilted and its composition is jejune and awkward, but as a specimen of drawing on the scale of life and an illustration of stateliness in style it is extremely fine; indeed, it can hardly be overpraised. No. 43 is a very fair replica of *Jens washes Peter's Feet*. In announcing the gift of the original to the National Gallery, we gave the history and mentioned the names of the persons who sat to Brown for the chief figures, except Mr. F. G. Stephens, who sat for the face of Christ (it is said to be an excellent likeness of the model); Mr. W. Hunt, senior (or Mr. W. B. Scott); Mr. C. B. Cayley, the translator of Dante; and the original of St. John, whom we supposed to be Christina Rossetti. She, however, had no recollection of having sat to Brown for this head. It is, therefore, more probable that her brother William did so. Mr. Coltart's *Jacob and Joseph's Coat* (63), a strikingly original design, at once picturesque and expressive, aptly illustrates Brown's powers, and is admirably painted. The heads of the truculent Judah, the asinine Issachar, the brooding Benjamin, and the cruel Simeon are first rate. On the other hand, it furnishes a curious illustration of Brown's in-

N° 3616, ability to p student of intended his subject which, acc falsity of exhibit to Joseph. ment, and blood. Su but he fo to know w There is William "collation supply the national p engraved pilation, t it is rea wondered Selecting to exhibit it was su been engr would hav so because compilation oneself wi to believe Brown (2 himself, so good r melodram ness and Among at any le your Son, her first Sleep (74) in Brown later; se Sardanapa artist's f a good e number o figures of poets, an way, the much at rigorous must con which sho ates, di and cont otes as Brown's 'eccadil' aented.

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ability to put himself in the place of the observing student of his conceptions. For instance, he intended to express part of the motive of his subject by a sheep-dog in the foreground, which, according to the artist, demonstrates the falsity of the rascally sons of Jacob when they exhibit to their father the blood-stained coat of Joseph. The dog sniffs the blood on this garment, and refuses to recognize it as human blood. Such was Brown's account of his design, but he forgot to tell the public how they were to know what is passing in the dog's mind!

There is a good deal that is interesting about William Shakespear (58), a powerfully painted "collation from various portraits, intended to supply the want of a credible likeness of our national poet," and, as such, proposed to be engraved for sale. It is, in fact, a compilation, and nothing else. In that respect it is really fine; but it is hardly to be wondered at that purists in portraiture like the Selecting Committee of the Academy declined to exhibit it as a likeness of Shakspeare, when it was submitted to them in 1850. Had it been engraved, goodness knows what confusion would have arisen among the *cognoscenti*, the more so because it really is a remarkably successful compilation, such as, when one has familiarized oneself with it, it becomes extremely difficult not to believe in. The *Portrait of Ford Madox Brown* (22) is, for a man's representation of himself, fairly faithful, but it is not nearly so good nor so true as No. 50, which, though melodramatic in its motives, is a veritable likeness and splendidly painted.

Among the works to which we need not refer at any length are *At the Opera* (66); "*Take your Son, Sir!*" (70) a young matron offering her first-born babe to its father; *Parisina's Sleep* (74), a vigorous and competent painting in Brown's Belgian style of 1842 or a little later; several pastel portraits (82, 83, and 84); *Sardanapalus's Dream* (115), the latest of the artist's first-rate designs, of which there is a good etching by Mr. Rhead; and a large number of cartoons for stained glass, comprising figures of bishops, saints, heroes, kings, queens, poets, and philosophers, noble works in their way, the conception of which is generally much above their by no means invariably vigorous draughtsmanship. To conclude, we must complain of the badness of the Catalogue, which should have supplied notes on the history, dates, dimensions, and subjects of the works, and contains no index to their names. Such notes as there are have been borrowed from Brown's catalogue of his own exhibition in Piccadilly; they ought to have been supplemented.

MR. GEORGE PRICE BOYCE.

THE first hour of Tuesday afternoon last took from amongst us the amiable, accomplished, and extremely original painter in water colours who, until 1893, when he entered the "Retired" grade, had been an eminent member of the "Old Society," in which he worthily filled the place of his model, David Cox. He was the eldest child of George J. Boyce and his wife, Anne Price, and was born in Bloomsbury on the 24th of September, 1826; he went to school at Chipping Ongar, and afterwards stayed for a considerable time in Paris. Proposing to become an architect, he was articled to the late Mr. Little. In 1846, while still with Mr. Little, he travelled in South Germany and Flanders, making sketches of the town architecture of those countries, and later in France. He continued in Mr. Little's office till October in that year, when, as an "improver," he entered the employment of Messrs. Wyatt & Brandon. With them he remained till the middle of 1849, when, having failed in a competition, and probably despairing of success as an architect, or rather, perhaps, becoming convinced that his vocation lay elsewhere, he made a lengthened tour in North

Wales, and encountered David Cox at the Royal Oak at Bettws-y-Coed.

This meeting seems to have led to Boyce's giving up architecture and taking to painting with characteristic single-mindedness and thoroughness. Already an excellent and swift draughtsman, and gifted with an exquisitely sensitive eye for the harmonies of nature's colours and tones, Boyce made exceptionally rapid progress in his newly chosen studies, although an accident while skating, in the winter of 1849, which injured his hip and lamed him slightly for life, compelled him to lay up for some months. In 1851 he was again in Wales, where he made several of those beautiful studies upon which his reputation in after life was founded.

Before this he had become intimate with several artists, such as Mr. H. T. Wells, who married his sister Joanna, herself an accomplished painter, and he found himself drawn into a distinguished circle. A second meeting with Cox at Bettws confirmed him in his new departure, and on returning to London in the winter of 1852, he took a studio in Great Russell Street, and, joining the long-renowned Clifton Street Academy, studied much from the life and tried his hand at oil painting. Some time before this Boyce, probably by means of Mr. Wells, was, we believe, brought in contact with Rossetti while he was finishing the 'Mary, Virgin,' picture, or that 'Ecce Ancilla Domini!' now in the National Gallery. The date of this introduction is doubtful—it may have been 1849, or even later; but the effect upon Boyce was such that he became an enthusiastic friend of the great artist, although their characters were entirely different, bought some of his pictures, and always regarded him with a most unusual affection. On Boyce's style of painting, on the other hand, Rossetti had no influence. In 1853 Boyce was at Dinant, and visited the Pyrenees and Babbacombe Bay, where he produced some charming water colours. In this year, too, he made his first appearance at London exhibitions, sending to Suffolk Street 'The Royal Oak, Bettws-y-Coed' (a reminiscence of Cox), and 'Beeches,' and to the Academy 'Timber Yard, Chiddingstone,' and 'East End of Edward the Confessor's Chapel, Westminster.' He repeated the last subject more than once, and his drawings of it will long show the beauty of the interior of the Abbey, before it was degraded by Sir Gilbert Scott.

In 1854 Boyce was studying in Switzerland, at Ticino, Milan, Venice, and Verona, where he made a fine drawing of the tombs of the Can Grande and Mastino. In 1855 he was again in London, drawing at the Langham Chambers School, and again visited North Wales. In 1856 he moved from Great Russell Street to 15, Buckingham Street, Strand, and had William Burges for his fellow lodger. Later in the same year we find him painting at Airola and Giornico, and again suffering greatly in the injured hip, which troubled him during succeeding years, when he was studying at Lindfield, Brighton, Lynmouth, Berry Pomeroy, Glastonbury, and Wells. Each visit is signalized by more than one fine drawing.

In 1858 Boyce became a founder member of the original Hogarth Club, whose rooms were in Piccadilly and Waterloo Place. Among the members were Street, W. Burges, Madox Brown, A. D. Fripp, Lord Leighton, D. G. Rossetti, and Woolner; and of men still living Sir E. Burne-Jones, Sir F. Burton, and Mr. Wallis. To the private exhibitions of this society Boyce contributed, as he had previously done to the collection of Pre-Raphaelite pictures held in Russell Place, Fitzroy Square. In successive years we find him busily painting at Streteley, of which he was one of the discoverers, long before F. Walker and his friends drew attention to it;

at Whitby, where he made drawings before Alfred Hunt went there; at Rievaulx and Whitwell. Some of the results of these visits were exhibited at the Academy and enhanced his reputation. In the autumn of 1861 he went to Egypt, with Mr. F. Dillon as his companion, and remained six months.

Boyce removed from Buckingham Street to the chambers Rossetti had vacated in Chatham Place, because his wife had died there, and remained in Blackfriars till October, 1868, when, having determined to build himself a house near Rossetti's in Cheyne Walk, he engaged Mr. Philip Webb to design it. During its erection he resided in the neighbourhood, and in 1870 the very characteristic mansion in Glebe Place in which he died on Tuesday was ready for occupation. He filled it with pictures, drawings, porcelain, and all sorts of objects which attracted him by their beauty. "West House," as Boyce called it, became henceforward his headquarters, while in his excursions he visited Ludlow, Dunster, Dovedale, and Wales at home, and in France, Auvergne, Dauphiné, and Burgundy. He continued to do so until his health, enfeebled by repeated attacks of typhoid fever and a severe accident to one of his wrists, began to break up.

In 1864 he was elected an Associate of the Old Society, and to its exhibitions he was thenceforth an almost constant contributor of drawings, always beautiful, delicate, and unobtrusive, which were conspicuous for their fidelity and unaffected sincerity. The simple "Englishness" of their technique was almost demure in its graceful modesty. A less unassuming man would have held a place among the leaders of the "Old Society," and it was hardly to their credit that so fine and sound an artist remained an Associate until 1878.

Personally Boyce was like his pictures: modest almost to a fault, undemonstrative and sincere, endowed with sentiment that was not to be understood by those who judge men by the first glance, and least of all by those who, infected with the vulgarities of our time, "confound the bigger with the greater." Highly cultivated, he found in art his chief occupation and resource. He was also an excellent amateur musician, and at one time a good oarsman.

SALES.

MESSRS. CHRISTIE, MANSON & WOODS sold on the 6th inst. the following pictures, from the collection of the late Baron de Hirsch: E. W. Cooke, Fishing Boats Ashore, and Market Figures, 136l. P. Rousseau, ten illustrations to La Fontaine's 'Fables': The Jay and the Peacock; The Fox and the Stork, and companion; The Rabbit and the Duck; The Rabbits and the Mole; The Heron and the Snail; The Hare and the Grasshopper; The Pigeons; The Hare and the Tortoise; Portrait of La Fontaine, 320l. F. Ziem, A View of Constantinople, 252l. A. Cuyp, The Kicking Horse, 141l. J. L. David, The Parting of Telemachus and Eucharis, 220l. T. Gainsborough, Portrait of Lord Mulgrave, 735l. H. H., Portrait of Hans Balthazar Bodmer, 136l. A. Kauffmann, The Judgment of Paris, 162l. Largillière, Portrait of Duchesse de Villars, 315l. C. Van Loo, Portrait of Henriette Reunetain, 294l. Frans Mieris, The Interior of an Apartment, with a lady seated by a table, 189l. J. F. Nollekens, Pierrot and other Figures; and Figures Dancing (a pair), 315l. A. Ostade, Les Musiciens Ambulans, 115l. G. Terburg, Portrait of a Lady and Portrait of a Gentleman, 225l.; An Interior of a Room, with a lady in white satin dress and black cape, 483l. Van Dyck, Portrait of a Boy, 1,680l.

The same auctioneers sold on the same day the following pictures, the property of a gentleman: Hondecoeter, A Landscape, with cocks fighting and other birds, 162l. N. Maes, Interior, with a servant in red and green dress seated by a table plucking a duck, 630l.

Messrs. Robinson & Fisher sold on the 4th inst. the following pictures: Whistler, Portraits, a pair, sketches, 97l.; The Thames by Night, sketch, 136l. Sir J. Reynolds, A Portrait of a Lady, in ermine-trimmed dress, 78l. P. Bordoni, A Portrait of a Venetian Lady, in black and brown dress, 278l.

On Monday and Tuesday of last week there were sold at the gallery of M. G. Petit, Paris, the following pictures from the collection of M. H. Vever: Corot, Eurydice Blessée, 26,000 francs; Abrevoir, 82,000; Chemin Montant, 27,800; Nympe couchée au Bord de la Mer, 30,000; Le Lac, 16,000; Matinée, 16,000; Jeune Mère, 15,800; Route Ensoleillée, 12,000; Ville d'Avray, 35,000; Le Pêcheur, 8,500. Daubigny, Les Bords de l'Oise, 78,000 (this is said to be the highest sum ever paid for a work of Daubigny's). Diaz, La Châtelaine, 13,200. Harpignies, Le Crépuscule, 11,500. Millet, Femme au Puits, pastel, 27,000; La Plaine, pastel, 16,200; Les Puisseuses d'Eau, pastel 20,300. Meissonier, Le Déjeuner, 72,000; Officier d'Etat-Major en Observation, 94,100. C. Monet, Pont d'Argenteuil, 21,500; L'Eglise de Vernon, 12,000; L'Eglise de Varangeville, 10,800; Les Glaçons, 12,500. Puvion de Chavannes, "Ludus pro Patria," sketch for the picture at Amiens, 22,500. The total amount realized at this sale was 967,970 francs.

Fine-Art Gossip.

MESSRS. BOUSSOD, VALADON & Co. have on view a number of water-colour drawings by Mr. C. E. Holloway.—Messrs. T. Agnew & Sons have formed in the Old Bond Street Galleries an exhibition of water-colour drawings.—The Fine-Art Society has appointed to-day (Saturday) for the private view of Mr. A. W. Rimington's drawings entitled "Wanderings in Italy," to see which the public will be admitted on Monday next.—The same date applies to an exhibition at Messrs. Dowdeswell's of water-colour drawings by Mr. J. Aumonier of the old Chain Pier, Brighton, and pictures in oil painted in Lincolnshire and Sussex by the same.

The annual meeting of the Royal Archaeological Institute will be held at Dorchester from August 3rd to August 10th, under the presidency of Lieut.-General Pitt-Rivers. Prof. Boyd Dawkins will preside over the Antiquarian Section, and Sir Henry Howorth over the Historical.

MR. WATTS, being now a Retired Royal Academician, will, we hear, not contribute more than one picture to the next exhibition. He is in the country, and in good health.

A LARGE 'Italian Landscape,' by Prof. Costa, has been hung in the National Gallery, the first work of that admirable artist which has found its way into an English public collection.

ALL lovers of water-colour painting will be sorry to hear that the Special Exhibition of members' works in the gallery of the Old Society, which we criticized recently, shut last Saturday. The Burlington Club's exhibition of Alfred Hunt's works will close on the 28th inst.

AN exhibition of portraits of fair women and beautiful children is, following recent English precedent, being organized for benevolent purposes at the Ecole des Beaux-Arts, Paris, and will be open from the 26th of April till the 23rd of May next. We may hope to find at the Ecole, as in similar exhibitions held in Paris since the "Alsaciens-Lorrains" gallery, 1874, numerous rarities from private collections.

MESSRS. CLIFFORD & Co. exhibit until the end of this month, at 21, Haymarket, what they call "A Dog Show on Paper and Canvas, including some Royal Pets," the works of Miss F. C. Fairman.

ANOTHER of the monumental volumes which excite the wonder rather than the admiration of

those who concern themselves with the doings of the Department of Science and Art has been issued from the Stationery Office in the form of an octavo Blue-book of nearly three hundred closely printed pages. The title sufficiently indicates its nature, and that is 'Calendar, History, and General Summary of Regulations of the Department.' Seemingly, the only fact that is new in it is that the South Kensington Schools are, in so far as they teach decorative drawing and design, now officially described as the Royal College of Art. We have failed to discover the record of an intention on the part of the authorities to correct their recent blunder of removing from a well-lighted hall to a dull corridor the unrivalled collection of casts of the finest sculptures.

MUSIC

THE WEEK.

ST. JAMES'S HALL.—Henschel Concerts. QUEEN'S HALL.—Symphony Concerts. Promenade Concerts. Stock Exchange Orchestral Society. Royal Amateur Orchestral Society.

THERE have been few greater choral works produced by living composers of late years than Brahms's 'German Requiem,' originally written as a filial tribute to the memory of the master's dead mother. So much has been uttered concerning this beautiful and original work, with its combination of musical science and pathos, that nothing more remains to be written, and we have only to chronicle a generally commendable performance of it at St. James's Hall on Thursday last week. Mr. Henschel had his orchestra and chorus well in hand, and much, if not perfect justice was done to the principal parts for soprano and baritone by Miss Evangeline Florence and Mr. George Holmes. Praise absolutely unqualified must be bestowed on Miss Fanny Davies for her interpretation of Brahms's Pianoforte Concerto in D minor, Op. 15. Technically and intellectually it was a noteworthy achievement. A slip inserted in the programme book was calculated to astonish the audience. The Philharmonic Society announces that for the first time some concerts will be given this year in the autumn as well as in the spring and summer. We have, therefore, this curious pronouncement:—

"Mr. Henschel, whose orchestra consists of the greater part of members of that of the Philharmonic Society, begs to announce that, after the termination of the present series, his orchestral and choral concerts will, for a time at least, be discontinued."

Of course Mr. Henschel has every right to discontinue his concerts, especially if they do not pay their way; but the excuse he gives is somewhat insufficient, for there are plenty of good orchestral players who would be glad to accept service under him if called upon.

Apart from Dvorák's Symphony in E minor, 'From the New World,' the second of Mr. Robert Newman's Symphony Concerts last Saturday afternoon consisted entirely of Wagnerian extracts. We had the new Venusberg music from 'Tannhäuser,' the Prelude and Death Song from 'Tristan und Isolde,' Tannhäuser's Pilgrimage, the Trauermarsch from 'Götterdämmerung,' the Overture to 'Die Meistersinger,' and last, but not least, a lengthy selection from the first act of 'Parsifal,' given without the vocal parts. Most of these were superlatively well played under Mr. Henry J.

Wood's direction; but the 'Parsifal' selection seemed rather in the nature of a sacrilege, for the music is, comparatively speaking, ineffective without the voices and the scenic accessories.

The novelty at last Saturday evening's Promenade Concert was an orchestral legend, entitled 'Undine,' by Miss Amy Horrocks. There are many versions of this antique fairy story, and Miss Horrocks, a young composer of no mean talents, has dealt with it in her own way, handling her materials with melodic inspiration and plenty of vigour. The orchestration is strenuous, and, we might say, masculine rather than feminine. The piece was received with much favour, and Miss Amy Horrocks may be warmly encouraged to persevere. The rest of the programme consisted of familiar materials, and scarcely calls for notice.

The most admirably equipped of our numerous amateur orchestral and choral societies, that known by the name of the Stock Exchange, gave an exceedingly creditable concert on Tuesday, though the Society's conductor, Mr. George Kitehin was absent on account of ill health. His place was admirably filled by Mr. Arthur W. Payne, and the performance of one of Haydn's Symphonies in D, from the Salomon set, and three movements from Schubert's 'Rosamunde' music would not have reflected discredit on a professional orchestra. A novelty was an elegiac overture, entitled 'Les Ténèbres,' by Miss Swepstone. The clever young composer has prefaced her score by a few words from Tennyson's 'In Memoriam.' The piece is, therefore, in the tragic vein so fashionable at present, but it is well scored, and the themes, if not particularly original, are put together with a musician's hand. Miss Irma Sethe played some violin solos with pure tone and intonation; and Prof. Bridge was, of course, unexceptionable in Handel's spirited Organ Concerto in B flat, No. 2, from the first set, with a *cadenza* from his own pen. The male-voice choir, under the direction of Mr. S. J. Edwards, gave some glees and part-songs with delightful refinement.

The Royal Amateur Orchestral Society's Concert on Wednesday evening commenced with a series of items by Wagner. This was rather an innovation, but it was, on the whole, successful, Mr. George Mount's band giving effective performances of the Vorspiel to 'Tristan und Isolde' (concert version), the Overture and March from 'Tannhäuser,' and a sort of *pasticcio* from the third act of 'Die Meistersinger.' Vocal pieces were contributed in commendable fashion by Madame Alva and Mr. George Holmes, but they should have been sung in German. There was nothing in the second part to call for notice.

Musical Gossip.

MR. LAMOND again showed himself a master of the key-board at his fourth and last pianoforte recital in St. James's Hall on Tuesday afternoon. His rendering of Beethoven's final Sonata in C minor, Op. 111, was perhaps a trifle cold; but from a technical point of view it was a remarkably fine performance, and the same may be said of his interpretation of Schubert's Fantasia in C, Op. 15. Minor pieces by several

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composers were included in a programme that should have drawn a larger audience.

TSCAIKOWSKY'S *Symphony in B minor, 'Pathétique,'* was announced for repetition at Sir Charles Halle's Manchester concerts on Thursday this week. The work seems to grow in popularity at every musical centre.

MR. ALFRED SCHULZ-CURTIS informs us that, owing to the strong recommendation of Frau Cosima Wagner, Herr Carl Pohlig, of Bayreuth, has been secured by the Covent Garden Syndicate to advise and assist their stage manager in the mounting and general production of the Wagner performances during the summer season. It is, therefore, reasonable to look forward to some excellent representations of the Bayreuth master's works.

A PIANOFORTE Trio in A, by the Russian composer Paul Pabst, will be performed for the first time in London at the Walenn chamber concert in the Queen's Hall next Tuesday evening.

Mlle. AIMEE FERDINAND will give her first evening concert, under the direction of Mr. Ernest Cavour, at St. James's Hall on March 9th, assisted by Mr. Ben Davies, Miss Florence Leoni, Miss Bonavia, Signor Panzani, and Herr Emil Steger, who will make his first appearance on the London concert platform.

We regret to announce the death of Mrs. Percy Betts, the wife of one of the most esteemed musical critics on the London press. Mrs. Betts, though not a professional, was an excellent musician and the eldest of three sisters, the second being the well-known vocalist Miss Giulia Warwick, who happily still survives. The youngest, Miss Alexandra Ehrenberg, also an admirable vocalist and a very successful teacher, passed away a few months ago.

MR. EUGEN D'ALBERT has completed a new opera entitled 'Gernot,' which is to be produced at Mannheim in April.

MISS MURIEL ELLIOT seems to have won golden opinions as a pianist in Berlin, and when she returns to London she will doubtless reappear as an executant at the earliest opportunity.

The death is announced of Joseph W. von Wasielewski, who will best be remembered by his excellent literary works on Schumann. He was leader of the orchestra at Düsseldorf at the time when Schumann was Kapellmeister in that town.

The composer C. Grammann, born in 1844 at Lübeck, died at Dresden on the 31st ult. His best-known work is the romantic opera 'Melusine,' first performed at Wiesbaden in 1875. Grammann was an enthusiastic admirer of Wagner, traces of whose influence are to be found in his compositions.—We also hear of the death, in his fifty-seventh year, of the popular concert-singer Felice Mancio. He was a native of Turin, and took part in the Italian revolutionary wars of liberation.

The hundredth anniversary of the birth of Donizetti will be celebrated on September 25th at Bergamo, his native town, on which occasion a monument to his memory will be unveiled. The idea of a Donizetti exhibition on a large scale at the same time is contemplated.

- PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.
- Orchestral Concert, 3.30, Queen's Hall.
 - National Sunday League Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
 - Queen's Hall String Quartet Concert, 7.30.
 - Orchestral Concert, 7.45, Royal College of Music.
 - Popular Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
 - Miss E. A. Atkinson's Pianoforte Recital, 3, Steinway Hall.
 - Walton Quartet Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.
 - St. Cuthbert's Hall Choral Society, 8, Gade's 'Erl King's Daughter,' Schubert's 'Song of Miriam,' &c.
 - Royal Amateur Orchestral Society's Concert, 9, Queen's Hall.
 - Wm. Ballad Concert, 9, St. James's Hall.
 - Miss M. Shaw's Recital, 8, Queen's Hall.
 - Herr Werner's Violin Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
 - Mr. Henschel's Symphony Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
 - Messrs. Plunket Greene and Leonard Horwick's Recital, 3, St. James's Hall.
 - Bohemian String Quartet Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
 - Mr. Dolmetach's Concert on Old Instruments, 9, No. 6, Keppel Street, Bloomsbury.
 - Popular Concert, 3, St. James's Hall.
 - Queen's Hall Symphony Concert, 3.
 - Mrs. Stanton's Concert, 3, Queen's Hall.
 - Orchestral Concert, 8, St. James's Hall.
 - Promenade Concert, 8, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

LYRIC.—'The Daughters of Babylon,' a Play in Four Acts. By Wilson Barrett.

MORE scholarship than most dramatists or, for the matter of that, scholars possess is requisite to put before us in dramatic guise life in Babylonia during the Jewish captivity. Such few indications as are afforded by inspired writers or the fragments of Berossus, backed up by recent excavations, supply possibly materials for an animated panorama. Genius such as that displayed by Byron, say in 'Cain,' is indispensable if the figures of the antique world are to be endowed with vitality. Mr. Wilson Barrett is not a Byron. He has gone back to the Babylonian Talmud for a motive, and he has discovered one which is doubtless appropriate. To this he has given what claims to be a dramatic exposition in front of a floridly coloured picture of Oriental buildings and characters. His Rabbinical 'Mishna' is, however, interpreted in action by men of to-day; the Oriental atmosphere is confined to that supplied by the scene-painter; and the motives by which the characters are animated are wholly inappropriate and inconceivable. One must not, of course, tie down the dramatist too closely. The mere fact that the characters, Babylonian or Hebrew, speak our language, shows how much that is conventional is indispensable to the represented drama. Shakespeare even puts English country gentlemen, the predecessors of the squires of Fielding and Smollett, in Illyria or elsewhere. He is not, however, false in essentials. You may not present people animated by virtues undreamt of in their time. The inducements to action of many of Mr. Barrett's characters, and the atmosphere of much of his play, are Christian at a time when the very form the Redeemer was to take had not been anticipated. Love is, of course, immortal. Had Mr. Barrett, on the lines of the notion he has adopted, but not shapen, given us a story of passion, fatefulness, and death, or of ripe, brief enjoyment, he might with no great difficulty have achieved a work that would, for a time at least, have lasted. He had, however, given us previously 'The Sign of the Cross,' and the Church has bestowed its benediction upon the picture of pagan licentiousness and Christian sentiment. He must accordingly do the same again. When his hero is followed to Babylon by a Jewish maiden masquerading in boyish gear, who forfeits her life in so doing, he delivers to her long and edifying speeches. When a second woman, a courtesan, enamoured of his fatal beauty, approaches him with solicitation, he lectures her on the virtues of self-effacement in behalf of the beloved object in a manner that convinces her, makes her ashamed of her profession, and induces her to place another woman in her lover's arms, a thing scarcely to be dreamed of in these Christian days. The result is that the play is foolish, unconvincing, and dull. It was found so by Mr. Barrett's partisans, numerous and enthusiastic as these are. At the close of the piece a battle royal was fought between

the contents and the non-contents, but the contents, even though they were in a majority, were unmoved during the performance. Not a solitary touch, indeed, is there of genuine passion in the whole. All is frigid, artificial, unreal, uninspired. The scenery is excellent, and may very possibly convey to us an idea as good as we are likely to get of Babylon, with its hanging gardens and its exuberant life. Martin scarcely suggests in his paintings a better notion of immeasurable distance lighted by fiery cressets than does Mr. Hann. We are not, however, speaking now from a standpoint of scholarship, nor demanding of Mr. Barrett what no man, possibly, can give. We are accepting his own position—that of trying to produce a popular and an edifying play. He has given us instead an address with musical additions and a picturesque background, but without action, sympathy, or interest. We are rather tired of quoting the French maxim—

Tous les gens sont bons hors le genre ennuyeux.

To 'le genre ennuyeux' 'The Daughters of Babylon' belongs. Mr. Wilson can be, and is frequently, but not always, picturesque; he has a fine voice and good delivery. These gifts he displayed. Miss Maud Jeffries played agreeably a species of Rosalind part, and Miss Lily Hanbury looked superb as a courtesan ashamed of her occupation.

Dramatic Gossip.

THE revival of 'Sweet Nancy' at the Court Theatre proves satisfactory in all respects. Miss Annie Hughes's performance of the heroine is one of the pleasantest exhibitions of comedy the modern stage affords. Mr. Martin Harvey is excellent as Algernon, and Mr. Maurice as Sir Roger Tempest adds weight to the cast. Miss Beatrice Ferrar and the other interpreters of the children are all lifelike. The only thing to be resisted is a tendency to overdo the horseplay. This is not at present objectionable, but a very little more would make it so.

'A BIT OF OLD CHELSEA,' by Mrs. Oscar Beringer, presents pleasantly enough a curiously feminine reading of supposed masculine temptations. A young sculptor, on the eve of getting married, shelters in pure benevolence a female waif, who has fainted in the street from cold and destitution. She is a comely, vulgar, good-hearted flower-girl, and her behaviour under trying circumstances is generous and womanly. We hesitate, however, from a masculine standpoint, to put much faith in the temptations the hero is supposed to resist. A man has no right to hug himself on his virtue for sparing the woman he has sheltered and fed, especially when her dress and surroundings cannot possibly be appetizing or provocative. The piece, which precedes 'Sweet Nancy,' is pretty in a way, and is capably played by Mr. Maurice and Miss Annie Hughes.

THIS evening at the Garrick Theatre witnesses the production of 'My Friend the Prince,' Mr. Justin Huntly McCarthy's alteration of 'My Friend from India.'

THE same evening will be marked by the reappearance at the Criterion of Mr. Charles Wyndham and Miss Mary Moore.

THE title of the new piece of Messrs. Jerome K. Jerome and Eden Phillpotts, to be played at the Globe on the 25th inst., is 'The McHaggis.'

THE first performance of 'Mariana,' by José Echegaray, will take place at the Court on the afternoon of the 22nd inst., Miss Elizabeth Robins playing the heroine, and Messrs. Hermann Vezin, H. B. Irving, James Welch, Martin

Harvey, and G. Bancroft being included in the cast.

ISEN's latest play, 'John Gabriel Borkman,' is to be given by Miss Robins immediately after Easter.

MR. HARE's success on the second visit to America seems to have been more conspicuous than on the first. The announcement is accordingly made that a third trip will begin next autumn under the management of Mr. Charles Frohman. Eccles in 'Caste' is the character in which Mr. Hare has made his most conspicuous triumph. We in this country can point to other characters in which we think even higher triumphs have been achieved.

DR. EDUARD JACOBSON, one of the most popular of German humorous playwrights, died at Berlin on January 29th. He was born in 1833 at Gross-Strelitz in Upper Silesia, and studied medicine at Berlin, but after taking his degree devoted himself to writing for the stage. His farce of '500,000 Teufel' had a run of three hundred successive performances in Berlin alone.

MISCELLANEA

Southey's Three Bears.—If your correspondent Dr. R. du Bois-Reymond will look at 'More English Fairy Tales,' edited by Mr. Joseph Jacobs (London, 1894), he will find in 'Scrap-foot' (text, pp. 85-90; notes, pp. 228-29) what I am convinced is the only surviving example of the story in its original form. The problems connected with this version are so numerous and so far-reaching in character as to make it the most interesting folk-tale that has been collected in England during the past half-century, which is doubtless the reason why it has been almost entirely overlooked by folklorists.

Will you allow me to demur to your reviewer's censure (in your last issue) of Mrs. Clark for "fine writing" in her retelling of Maori legends? If he will look at White or Tregear he will find that the Maori rhapsodists were masters of an extremely florid and imaginative style. Mrs. Clark has rather simplified than accentuated the rhetorical, poetic character of her originals.

ALFRED NUTT.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.—V. W.—A. H. G.—W. E. & C. H.—C. V. C.—F. H. P. C.—S. P.—received.
G. F.—We cannot undertake to answer such questions.

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